

YANKEE

ANC

APRIL 1956

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"The Lodge," illustrated above, is just one of many famous Elmer summer homes and cabins that are yours at prices that laugh at high construction costs. The new, scientific Elmer method of sectional prefabrication not only cuts costs, but makes building so easy that you can do the job yourself and make even greater savings. And remember, Elmer furnishes free delivery to your lot.

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Complete selections of new spring
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yes, everything for boys of all ages
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20 . . . and students 33 to 38.



Jordan Marsh Company

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New England's Largest Store

YANKEE

APRIL

1956

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All advertisements investigated carefully but we do not assume any responsibility for losses sustained by readers in dealings with advertisers.

Subscribers must send change of address well in advance of such change to ensure prompt delivery. Send old as well as new address.

COVER

by BEATRIX SAGENDORPH

When Bostonians want a real look at Spring's wonder, they head toward the Arnold Arboretum. This month's cover shows what they see near the main entrance—forsythia, daffodils, and a host of other spring flowers. All over New England flowers are blooming, for April surely sees the end of Winter.

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You'll be an expert chef with this professional-type 3 pc. Bar B Q Set. Beautifully made here in New England of highest grade Stainless Steel with handles of solid Rock Maple. Turner has 1 serrated sharp edge for testing meats while cooking. Attractively boxed for storing when not in use.

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FREE WOOLLEN SAMPLES & STYLE CATALOG

VERMONT NATIVES INDUSTRIES BRIDGEWATER 25, VERMONT

Please send me FREE swatches of your materials—and folder showing skirt styles you offer.

Name

Address

City Zone ... State

Tinklesonn Presents...



his stuffed animal friends; Tinky, the skunk—black and white plush, \$2.98 ppd.; Himself—the symbol of the Tinklesonn Shop—a stocking doll about 20" tall, and wearing corduroy pants, felt hat, shoes and gloves, \$4.98 ppd.; Wooly grey squirrel holding pine cone. Fur tail, button eyes, appealing expression. About 6" high, \$1.79 ppd.; and Jasper, the bunny, who comes in any color desired, \$1.59 ppd. All from Avis Rossi's Tinklesonn Shop. Send Check or Money Order. No C.O.D.'s, please.

THE TINKLESONN SHOP

Old Boston Road Southborough, Mass.

CUT CORNER TRAY



Overall size 8 1/2" x 12 1/2" —
Floor 7" x 11"

An authentic reproduction of an antique New England Tray. Hand made of 195 lb. coke tin plate. Lapped seams and wired edges.

Raw metal \$2.45 Flat Black \$2.95
Hand decorated \$12.00

Send stamp for folder of
other tole reproductions.

COLONIAL CRAFTS

Dept. M-4 Lunenburg, Mass.

Letters

Dear YANKEE:

A copy of the January issue was handed me yesterday. I being asked to comment on the article entitled "The Last Square Rigger." The title of this article is very misleading as the *Aryas* was not the last square rigger, although she was "the last full rigged, wooden ship" built on the Kennebec and in the country. I think that is what Mr. Pentleton meant to convey.

Robert B. Applebee
Stockton Springs, Me.

Dear YANKEE:

Would you please advise me where I can purchase a cornhusk mat? *The Rural New Yorker* suggested you as being the only one who would know much about homespun work.

Louise R. Hargreaves
Schroon Lake, N. Y.

We haven't seen a cornhusk mat in a coon's age. Perhaps some of our readers can tell you where they can be bought.

Dear YANKEE:

You have undoubtedly heard from other State of Mainers concerning the photograph on page 45 of the February YANKEE. This is

RECIPES

THAT STAND ALONE

Copy your favorites on these pages of smooth white cardboard in big letters with black crayon. You can read them clear across the kitchen. Indexed—twenty pages—Size 5 1/4" wide by 8" high—crayon included.

90 cents, postage paid.
Send a dollar bill and we will return dime with order.

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W. Concord, Mass.



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Selected Fine fine \$3.50; Fine \$3.75; Medium \$4.25; Common \$4.75, per hank. Fine open cane webbing \$1.50 square foot. Flat and Flat oval reeds \$1.95 per pound. All post paid. Instruction sheet FREE.

GOCART SHOP

R586 Pleasant St., New Bedford, Mass.

not Portland Head Light, but Spring Head Light or Spring Point Ledge Light.

Joseph C. O'Neil
South Portland, Me.

We certainly have heard from other State of Mainers! Letters have been pouring into the office and we are swamped. Mr. O'Neil is indeed correct, and our caption writer is being sent to Maine to bone up on light houses.

Dear YANKEE:

We have been enthusiastic readers of your magazine for the past five years and truly enjoy every issue. However, we cannot go along with the history of "Smugglers' Notch," January 1956, even as an attempt at humor. Jabez Nenniman of Colchester, Vermont, was Collector of Customs in 1808, not one of the smugglers as your article would have one believe. Reference, "Lake Champlain and Lake George" by Frederick F. Van De Water.

Dan. J. Sullivan
Minneapolis, Minn.

We suppose there are any number of explanations of how a place got its name, some true, some not so true. For more on Mr. Van De Water see page 68 of March issue.

Dear YANKEE:

I want to commend you on your magazine for its policy, its fine reporting and heart warming support it gives the new, the struggling and the hard worker. The many fine

departments it has, the wonderful aspect of our many American traditions you keep alive, plus that dream house you dig up each month.

Dorothy Harrower
New York, N. Y.

Dear YANKEE:

After reading "The Wave Who Made Good" and chuckling over the illustrations, I am determined to be a life-long subscriber to YANKEE. There is not enough grown-up foolishness in this world. Thanks to the Beers and to you!

Emily Monsarrat Gordon
Middleboro, Mass.

Dear YANKEE:

There are many good reasons for keeping YANKEE coming, but the story "The Wave Who Made Good" in the February issue is reason enough all by itself.

Kathleen Simionsen
Westwood, N. J.

Dear YANKEE:

I just received the February issue of the YANKEE Magazine, which I still think is the best magazine ever printed. I am sure that all who subscribe to your magazine are very grateful to you for sending such a lovely and wholesome book every month.

Mrs. Edna M. Toner
Norwalk, Conn.

DO YOU LIKE NEW ENGLAND?

If so, why not make sure you see YANKEE every month. It's easy. Just send us your check, Money Order or cash for \$2.00 and we'll see that you get a full year's subscription to New England's most popular magazine. Don't miss the *This New England* series of towns and villages, or the *Personality Portfolio's* visits to the people who live in Yankeeland. YANKEE lets you in on what's happening in New England today, and what has happened in its historic past. Send in your subscription NOW! If you have a friend who would like YANKEE, we'd be glad to send them a sample copy and a subscription blank.

YANKEE, Inc. Dublin, N. H.

Gentlemen: Enclosed is my check Money Order Cash for \$2.00.
Please send me YANKEE for the next 12 months.

NAME

ADDRESS..... CITY.....

STATE.....

YANKEE APRIL 1956



"Coming to the Point" by William Mount

THE ORIGINAL Yankee swoppers' column

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The purpose of the Original Yankee Swoppers' Column is two-fold; entertaining reading, and a convenient method of exchange between people who have things they don't want and people who want things they don't have. This two-fold purpose is based strictly on a non-commercial base; no mention of dollar value is allowed in the column nor any dollar comparisons. One measures in values here only by the degree of want or not want. For this reason future columns will exclude an ever-growing number of swap ads which tend towards coins, stamps, books, etc. . . . these being based obviously in accessible dollar values. Further, readers of this column are cautioned that, like Shakespeare, it never repeats and unlike the Mississippi River, will not flow into more than four line ads . . . or more than one ad per month per individual.

Ye Swap Editor.

Wanted: A large, standard harp. Can swap a fur coat, an old apple paperweight, an old violin, or what do you want? A100 Mass.

Swap fine 5 burner oil cooking stove with oven. Also oil burning hot water heater complete with copper coil and 3" pipe. Both ready to use. What have you? A101 N.H.

Have a brand new Bible, beautiful, by Southern Distributors to swap for all or part of Testimonies to the Church by Ellen G. White. A102 Mich.

Have a 7½ by 9 foot Gulistan rug. Blue with fern-like white design. I need a vacuum cleaner, electric washing machine, antique chest of drawers or what have you? A103 N.H.

Have book on Wild Flowers, root digging, and other subjects. Want books, Magazines, guides, on baseball, football, other sports. Fate. Mystic. True Magazines. A104 Mo.

Advertisements for the Swoppers' Columns may be sent in by subscribers or non-subscribers for free publication here. Limit—one 4 line Swap per month. However, we reserve the right to edit the wording, or to refuse to print them altogether. Swops for cash are not acceptable here. These—as well as any swops in which your name must appear—are carried in the (Trading Post) (10c a word). All copy for this section must reach us a month ahead of the issue you have in mind.

To answer an ad, enclose a plain stamped envelope for forwarding addressed to the box number, and your answer will be forwarded. We do not divulge the names of swoppers. Any unethical or unfair dealings become violations of the postal regulations and will be dealt with as such. Send all mail pertaining to swoppers, care of YANKEE, Dublin, N. H.

Assorted Political and Fraternal badges, foreign post cards before 1905, theatrical broadsides and posters. A stamp will bring a long list of collector's items. Want U.S. coins, old guns, or what have you. A105 N.Y.

Acme 35mm movie projector and film, 3-way portable radio, Keystone 16mm projector, voltage stabilizer, RCA 10" TV, German weight clock, tools, TV booster, etc. Want guns, printing press, typewriter, binoculars, camera, or what have you? A106 Mo.

Couple; very competent; mentally and physically; will swap present life, for positions of trust and companionship. Excellent backgrounds. A107 Mass.

Wanted, operatic vocal records on zophone Monarch, Columbia and Victor before 1910. A108 N.Y.

Skates, cameras, broiler, mackinaw, sports jacket, deerhead antique shotgun, tire chains, car heater, railroad watch, Mark Twain books, Army officer's boots. Make offer. A109 N.Y.

Wanted: summer camp "in any condition" on water within 150 miles of Boston. Will swap: Poloroid camera with all extras, binoculars, complete set golf clubs, magnetic disc recorder, Philco clock radio, 1956 encyclopedia set, Underwood noiseless typewriter, inter com set. (All items brand new or like new). A110 Mass.

Wrist watch, diamond ring, gold wedding ring, French pearl opera glasses, travel toilet set, inner tubes, footwarmer, egg scales, boxes, old carpenter tools, electric iron, coffee grinder. Swap for what have you? A111 N.Y.

Wanted: Magic lantern and slides. Have child's toy wagon and old buttons or tell me what you want. A112 Conn.

Want antique or used cameras! What do you want? A113 O.

Will swap a rag doll for buttons or laces to use on doll clothes. A114 Mass.

Will swap a new wool hooked rug 22x34 for a small keg all equipped for making home wine. A115 Me.

What do I have to give for a small offset press, hand or electric. A116 N.H.

Want sixteen-foot garage door, seventeen-foot Metal I-beam, drag scoop, extension ladder, post and 3-rail fence, in ground or out, can offer for swap 2400 Lincoln incubator, sawed lumber, table saw, hordes of chicken equipment, many other items. A117 Conn.

Have a Rolls Razor hardly ever used. What do you have that I might like. Am interested in old gardening books, Staffordshire, and fishing. A118 Vt.

One pair blue and white homespun portieres which have been in the family well over a hundred years for a small old deacon bench. A119 Conn.

Have a litter of registered, champion bred Golden Retrievers. Will swap one for a registered jersey heifer. A120 Vt.

Bib rug shuttles, any size string heddies, Holland's Butterfly and Moth books in one volume with good plates to swap for loom equipment, yarns or most anything old or interesting. A121 N.Y.

Original horsehair seat coverings from two small chairs to be discarded. Available if anyone has a use for them. A122 Mo.

Currier and Ives print in nice frame, title (Jesus Blessing Little Children) uncolored, also pair of (His Master's Voice) dog salt and pepper shakers. Will consider swap for best offer. A123 Mass.

One pair of woman's black shoe skates, size seven for a pair of old, oval gilt picture frames six or eight inches long and wide. A124 Conn.

Will swap my new never used hooked rugs and quilt tops also embroidered pillow cases for second hand clothes in good condition. Women's sizes 40 and 42, boys 4 to 12. Girls 7 to 14. Also curtains and toys. A125 Vt.

Have 2/3 of front page, New York Gazette Times, Sat. Eve Oct. 3, 1846. What have you to offer? A126 Conn.

Have 5 "World Almanacs" one from 1894, cover missing. One from 1902 in good condition. Two leather bound from 1904 and 1905. Also one 1906 in good condition. Make fascinating reading! Want tape recordings, something in electronics or anything else you have. A127 N.Y.

Wanted. Phonographs, records Catalogue and related items. Swap for weaver's supplies such as warp, balbriggan rug strips, & woolen yarns. A128 N.Y.

Will swap handmade dolls for brass wall bracket oil lamp, maple sugar or bayberry wax. A129 Mo.

Want pine or maple, 2 door, 1 drawer commode in good condition. Have brand new C.B.S. table radio or Bye-Lo-Baby doll (perfect) or George V Coronation program with 4 invitation tickets or old buttons. A130 N.Y.

A rare opportunity for the art lover or student. Have twenty copies (not consecutive) of the Art Journal published by D. Appleton 1875-80. Rich in steel engravings and period advertising. Also still have many issues of St. Nicholas 1886-1902. What have you? A131 Mass.

Wanted. Your used books and magazines for a Study Circle in South India. Shall send used Indian stamps in swap. A132 So. India.

Wanted—Model 97 Winchester pump shot gun, and antiques of all kinds, as, pistols, clocks, powder flasks, etc. Want garden tractor. Offer—repaired pocket-wrist watches, etc. Send your priced swap lists or anything. A133 Ky.

Will swap over 200 picture postcards dated in the early 1900's for a nice piece of pewter or milk glass. A134 Pa.

I would be interested in swopping, new apron full type or tea aprons for old pressed glass, very much interested in goblets, or what would someone like for the above. A135 N.Y.

Will swap beautiful gladioli bulbs for pretty cups, saucers, small pitchers, old buttons, or what do you have to offer? A136 N.H.

Civil War belt with large brass U. S. buckle plate and patch box. Black horse hair sofa. Snow shoes, gasoline engine. Flag pole. Want shot gun, 9x12 rug. A137 N.H.

Swap genealogical research on New England families at New England Historic Genealogical Society and County Registries at Middlesex and Suffolk, Mass. For LP phonograph records or info on families named Blood. A138 Mass.

Am looking for old, pattern glass, square plates, about eight or nine inches, state price, no imperfections. A139 N.Y.

Swap, Print of Dublin Harbor, Ireland over 175 years old; Parker, Sheaffer, Waterman, etc. pens and pencils, just overhauled by manufacturers with guarantee, archery set, new by Ben Pearson, a number of small antiques in silver for antiques or what have you. A140 N.Y.

Have flared china lamp shade 14 in. Iron tea kettle's, iron pot, 4 x 6 inch walnut picture frame, side saddle. Old antique red bordered napkins with fringe, 12 jelly glasses with lids. A141 Tenn.

Have six inch antique brass key. Would swap for rose bushes delivered this spring. A142 Me.

Want a folding door Franklin stove in good condition. Will swap one-year old combination bottled gas and oil range hardly used. A143 Mass. *

Want new cotton yard goods, knitting yarn, any crocheting material. Have many items to swap for same. A144 Wisc.

Have 177 different Army shoulder patches. Also 1,497 different World War II patriotic canes. Will swap for HO model railroad equipment. What have you. A145 Pa.

Floral sacks, daugerrotypes. Violin, jewelry, other personal items. For miniature colored glass antique lamps, or other things. Send list. A146 Ia.

One walnut tilt-top table (date c.1800): one reversible "game table," baize, one side; one small oval walnut stand; one large walnut-frame mirror. Will swap for old small silver tea service in good condition or what have you? A147 Md.

Set of sterling tableware, service for eight, fifty-six pieces. Make offer. A148 Vt.

Have many rolls of basket weaving material "wood" assorted colors. Also an old painting of Portland, Maine head light by T. Bailey. What have you to swap for these? A149 Me.

Will swap 2 wheel camp trailer 43" x 52" Eastman Kodak camera postcard size. Set of skis. Numerous construction tools. A150 Conn.

Have cameo pin. Make an offer. A151 Pa.

Would like to swap good condition clothes size 42. Two dresses, one sweater, one housecoat, new, and two brassiers, new, and some costume jewelry for one quilt. A152 N.J.

Antique auto fans—I will swap a 1912 handbook (pictures and statistics on all 1912 cars) for a

(Continued on page 94)



Captain's Mansion

HOUSE FOR SALE

[Yankee likes to mosey around and see, out of editorial curiosity, what you can turn up when you go home hunting. We have no stake in the sale whatsoever, and would decline it if offered.]

THIS HOUSE IS LOCATED on Route 28 in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts, and has been used in recent years as a guest house, for which a good trade has been established. The house was originally owned by Capt. Sturgis Crowell, who was captain of the Clipper Ships *Boston Light* and *Orpheus*. These ships sailed the Pacific Coast post from China, to San Francisco and around the Horn.

The house has eleven rooms, two baths,

wide floor boards and an outside shower. A large barn and a garden, which grows a winter's supply of potatoes and onions, goes with the property. The house has electricity and town water, and has two cellars, one of which contains a hot air furnace. The house will be sold either furnished or unfurnished. Unfurnished price is \$20,000. For further information contact E. H. McIlveen, Box 217, South Yarmouth, Mass.

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A private forest camp in the Green Mountains of Vermont. All equipment for rent at moderate rates.

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Delightful Dutch Colonial in perfect condition. 7 well arranged rooms with fireplace and bookshelves. Hardwood floors, hot water oil heat. Fully insulated. Outdoor fireplace and picnic area. 28 acres.

Price \$15,000

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Profitable guest lodge on Lake Pennesseewasie in Norway. Main Lodge plus 3 cottages, all with bath. Capacity for 25 or more. Boathouse, boats and all equipment included. This is the most popular guest lodge in the area. Priced at \$17,900.

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THE RED COTTAGE—Sleeps seven or eight or more. Unusually desirable. By the season—\$600. By the month—\$250.

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All With Modern Conveniences

Each place has separate location on a large estate in the white birch country of Shelburne, New Hampshire, in a Yankee community. All have superlative near views of Presidential Range. Accessible on black top road 1 1/2 miles from Rt. 2. Easy driving to all White Mountain points. Six miles to good shops.

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Located about 5 miles from Woodstock, Vermont, in a good farming and summer home section.

8 pleasant rooms—2 baths—summer kitchen—central heat, oil burner—gravity spring water and artesian well.

Barn—storage shed—good spacious work shop—125 acres—small pond, nice friendly view—an interesting property at only \$17,900.

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Available up to 3 summer months \$800.

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Tel. Woodstock 73

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BOOTHBAY HARBOR, MAINE REGION
SUMMER INN

On ocean front with beautiful view.
 Ideal for fishermen's lodge or adult
 camps. Room for expansion.

Low Price \$20,500.00, terms

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Realtor

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 Tel. 2737 Keese, N. H.

SOUTHERN VERMONT and
New Hampshire PROPERTIES

20-acres, Cape Cod house, \$4,500. 6-room Brick
 Colonial, \$5,500. 35-acre farm, 8-room Colonial, 2 1/2
 baths, steam heat, two brooks, \$18,000.

Many others, write,

DORR W. ALLEN, Realtor
 Tel. ALPine 4-9030

30 Walnut Street Brattleboro, Vt.

30 ACRES HILL-TOP ORCHARDS

well known for Finest Peaches and Apples
 Beautiful 225 acre scenic location
 10 Room House 50x60 Pegged Barn
 Macadam Road 1 mile from village
 by appointment

BURLEIGH HILL ORCHARDS
 Center Sandwich, N. H.

FOR SALE

A 15 yr. old good established Cape Cod summer
 antiques business in a winterized early Cape Cod
 house over 100 yrs. old. This is on main high-
 way Route 6A at Yarmouth Port. Shop contains a
 very attractive stock of perfect antiques. An
 ideal business for a retired couple. Write for
 particulars.

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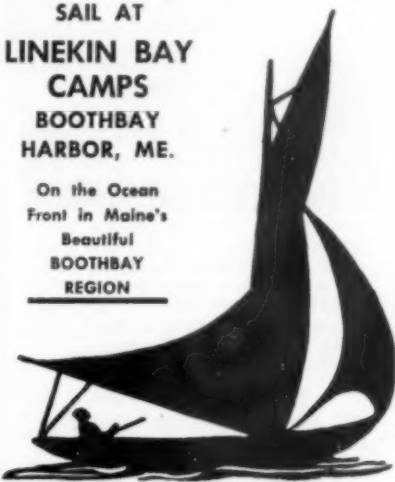
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TRAVEL and RESORTS

by MARJORY HALL

MONTH OF PROMISE

APRIL IS THE MONTH of promise. Sometimes the promise is buried under slush, hidden behind a dismal curtain of rain, lost in an upside-down bowl of grey skies. But Spring has a way of peeking through. The spears of the tender crocuses are undaunted by the snow, the faint embroidery of leaves appears on dark and stark branches, and New England shakes itself and looks ahead to moving out of doors.

While you're making your plans for immediate or for summer excursions, the recreation spots in our six states are getting ready for you. Rooms are being refurbished, summer furniture is standing around in barns and basements glistening with new paint, additions

From the lawn chairs and piazza of the Ocean Point Inn and Cottages, you catch this view over the water to the west.





The Ocean Point Inn and Cottages in Boothbay, Maine seems to us just the right place for that lazy few week's summer vacation.

are being made to inns and hotels. The least you can do is refurbish your mind: Make a list of the spots you've missed, or wished you'd heard about in time, or just plain start searching for new ones.

The Green Mountain Inn and Motel (Stowe, Vermont) is typical of the really active refurbishing and remodelling that goes on. A couple of years ago, one day after official closing (you'd think they'd take at least *two* days off?) they started pulling the place to pieces, and put in a new living room, new dining room, new kitchen, new bedrooms, new motel units, bigger and better Whip bar, plus considerable expansion here and there. So if you didn't get up in the 1955-1956 season, you'll have some surprises in store for you. This is a thought for next winter, unless they plan to extend their spring season, which as we remember tucks itself up about the middle of April—though there may be still time. Last we heard, the boys at the Green Mountain Inn and Motel were looking for a couple of honest-to-goodness neck barrels for their two pet Saint Bernards. Seems they had one, but someone thought he wanted it more than they did. Wonder if Santa Claus or some other kind-hearted soul came across?

The Nitschelm family, of Stonehurst Manor, North Conway, N. H. in a newsy letter about themselves and the Manor, remind us that in addition to the motel unit built last summer, there has since then been added a new addition to their dining porch.

Usually we look ahead, but for just a moment let's look backward. Did you do what you wanted to last winter? Did you wish you'd taken a few lessons in skiing or, even more probably, that the kids had? Well, here's a thought for next year: Lots of places have instruction today. The Bromley school in Manchester, Vermont, says succinctly over their door "Through this portal pass the future Olympic Champions." The Otis Ridge Junior Ski Camp in Otis, Massachusetts, provides artificial snow when all else and Nature fails. So if Junior's or Sister's burning desire is to go skiing next year, you might start looking quietly into the situation now. It's just a thought . . .

So many people think of Stowe, Vermont, as completely ski-happy, here's just a reminder that the freshness and coolness of Stowe in summer is the answer to many a tired business man's prayer. The Stowe-Mansfield Association in Stowe published a comprehensive little map for skiers, and now that Spring is here will undoubtedly help you with your spring and summer plans as well.

The breath-taking vistas of Pinkham Notch are available all year round—after all, who

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Spring brings out fishermen by the thousands. Here, Isaac Waltons try their luck on the Shepaug River, near Roxbury, Connecticut.

ever gets tired of looking at Mt. Washington? —but for a last splurge at winter fun and scenery, a tip from the Tuckerman Ravine country suggests that their winter season extends from December to June. Perhaps you'd like your winter in a fairly easy dose, cool but not cold, with snow to delight the eye instead of all over one's snowsuit? For summer information, drop a note to the Appalachian Mountain Club Camps.

Whitney's in Jackson, New Hampshire, says tersely that "it is never out of season at Whitney's . . . open all year around." And we have found from experience that a spot that must be

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snug and taut while the snows are upon us know all about fires for coolish Spring evenings. Whitney's boasts that they're quite used to having three generations of a family present at the same time, which should give you a rough idea of the general all-around excellence of food and service. The Sunday Night Smorgasboard is just one of the specialties of the house.

Another spot to think about and plan for—Topside, in Boothbay Harbor. Open from early June to September, Topside is nautical as all get-out, with a Foredeck, Aft Deck and Quarter Deck, and a new building called Windward Lodge. All of the salty beauties of Maine are fully present, with a view to the south of the island-dotted harbor to the open sea, and at the east a look at the inner harbor with its yachts, the picturesque waterfront of the town, with its shops and fine restaurants.

There's so much ahead—this month, next month, all summer. You've no excuse—so get going!

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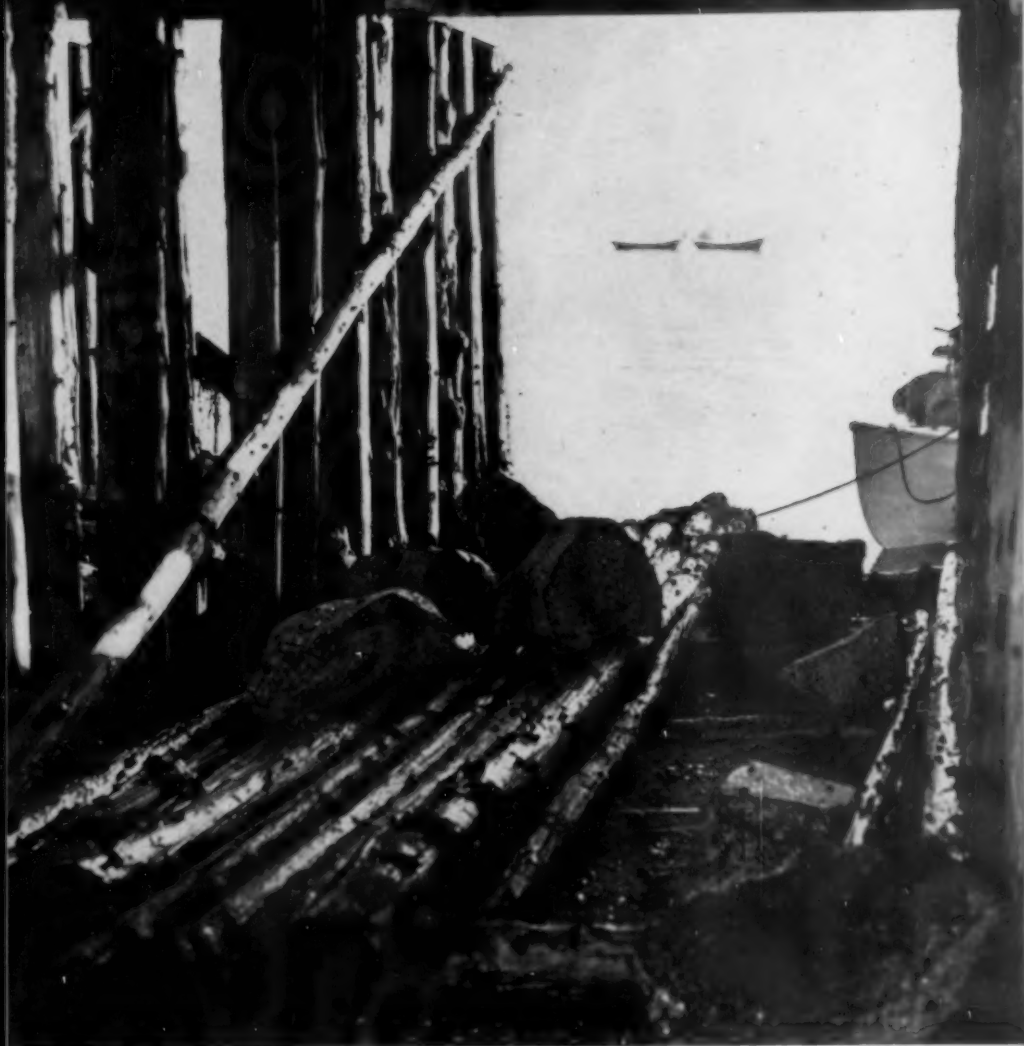


Hotel Prescott Beach, Swampscott, Mass.

THE BRINEY DEEP

Rye Beach, New Hampshire





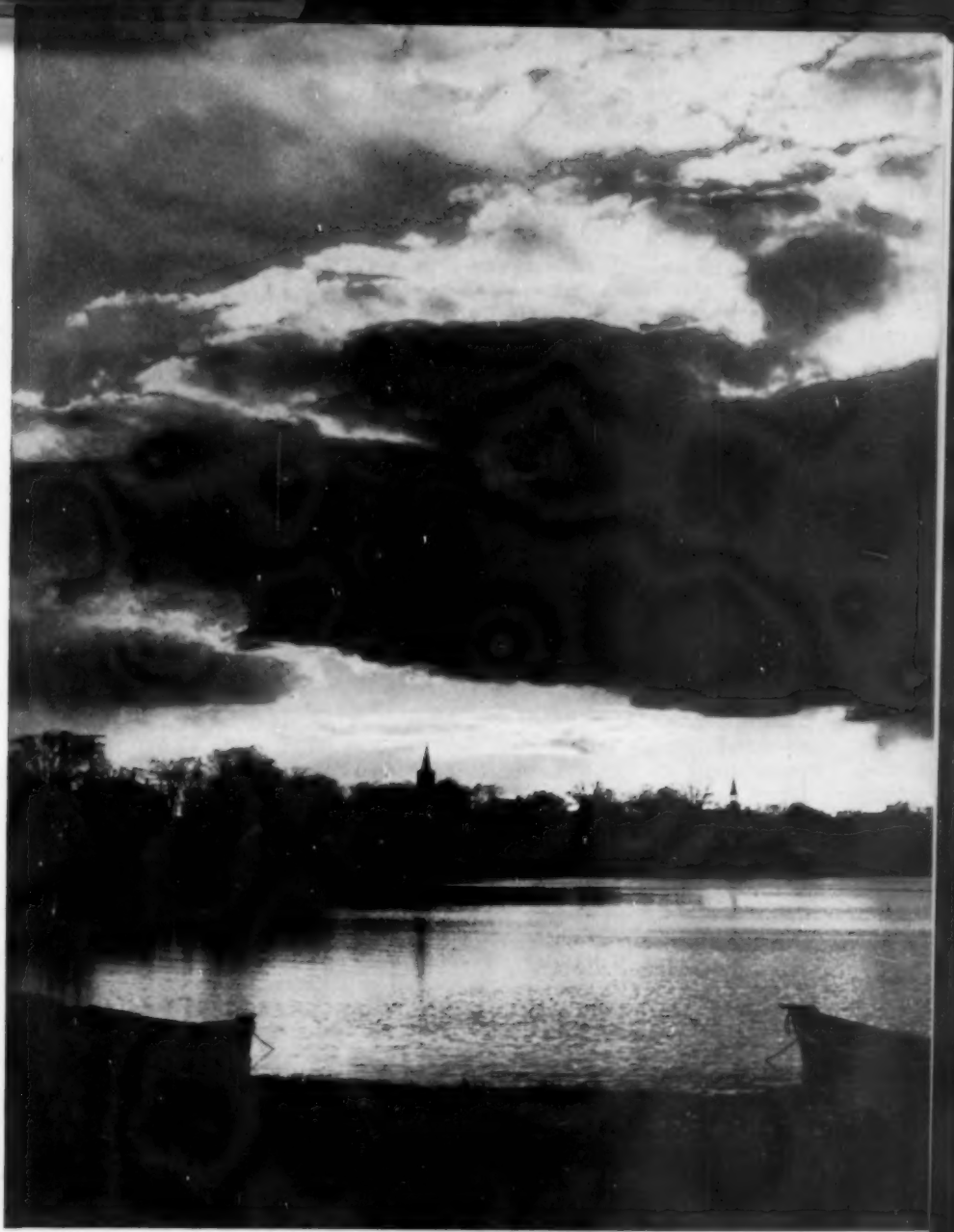
Jonesport, Maine

LOW TIDE

YANKEE APRIL 1956

21





Probably near Sandwich, Mass.

SPRING WEATHER — NEW ENGLAND STYLE

Missisquoi River, Swanton, Vt.

YANKEE APRIL 1956

by LIAM DOUGHERTY

Illustrated by Florence Vere O'Brien,
noted woodcut artist of Corhu-NaClohe, Crusheen, Co. Clave, Eire.

O'Flaherty's Coffin

THE MORNING AFTER the night the men brought Dan O'Flaherty home dead from the sea to his wife, Neil Gannon met Birdie O'Flaherty climbing the hill above the small Maine town and its narrow harbor, a woman shrunk small with sorrow.

Neil shifted the oars on his shoulder before he spoke. "I'm sorry for your trouble, Birdie."

"My heart will be forever in his grave, Neil," she said, raising her eyes to his.

"May Heaven be his bed. You're abroad early."

"I was just to the undertaker again, Neil. I've no coffin to put Dan in. They're wanting four hundred dollars for a coffin."

"Ah, the pirates!" Neil spat. "They have you without a choice and they know it."

"It destroys me to think of Dan forty years beside me in the bed to go into the ground in a pine box with yellow varnish on it."

"Where would the robbers be thinking a lobsterman would be finding four hun-

dred dollars—crawling about on the floor of the ocean?"

"It's not like they'd wait for it if I'd ever have it. They'd want it in their fist before they brought the box to the door."

"Were we in the old country again, there'd be some white boards and the willing hands of the friends who loved him would . . . Birdie! It's come to me like a dream falling in the night-time. Where are the boards for the boat Dan was going to build did he have the time?"

"Beneath the roof of the shed at the back of the house, Neil, where they'll be always now. He came home with the fine brass screws only last month, the time the price of lobsters was up. Sure if he'd only had the new boat, his old sieve wouldn't be at the bottom of the sea this day, and himself wouldn't be lying stiff out on the bed, dead of the wet cold."

"Give no more thought to the coffin, Birdie. It'll be one sorrow the less to you. I'll make it myself."

"You, Neil . . . ?"

"God of Virtues! why didn't I think



of it at once? I'll make it from the boards for the boat and the new brass screws, see? They'll make a fine box for a man who was never farther from water than a cat could spit."

"God bless you for a true friend, Neil, but the wake's tonight."

"And I'll make it tonight, with Joyce and Fahy to help me—Galway men all of us. It's the way it should be. Before the dawn whitens in the sky tomorrow, Dan will have a box any fisherman would rest easy in forever."

"Ah, Neil, it was his dear friend you were always."

"I was that. Didn't I know himself since a doily would make him an overcoat. Didn't we forsake Galway, lads together, and come to America together?"

"The blessing of grace on your soul!"

"I'll to the head of the quay, now, and see can I discover Joyce and Fahy before they go out to their traps. Make ready for the wake with a quiet heart. We'll be up the night, after the day's catch is in the dealer's box."

"There's a lonesome look on the sea

this day," said Birdie, looking down on the small harbor and beyond the rocky islands at its mouth toward the open sea, "and will be always. I'll go home to him now, easier in my mind. And God bless you kindly, Neil Gannon."

"God bless your health, Birdie. We'll be to the wake as soon as the sea will let us." He was off down the hill to the harbor, his nimble gait rattling the oars on his shoulder.

The world is a wide place and is full of nooks and crannies. And strange though it may seem to you, there are few of these in which an experienced globetrotter would be surprised to come upon an Irishman. For the greatest export of Ireland has always been her children. Step around any corner where you are and you're likely to find one, or the memory of one who colored the neighborhood at one time with a flavor of personality which survived him. Accomplished exiles always, Irishmen have been like raisins in the bread of civilization.

Didn't the old Incas of South America tell of a monk with a golden beard, and isn't he thought to have made a Christian impression on the country even in that time of dark and bloody idolatry? Didn't the Norsemen, who made Christopher Columbus look like a Johnnie-come-lately, write it down in their sagas that the Irish had been in America before them?

So it isn't such a wonder after all to find a covey of them nested among the pink granite stones of a New England harbor hillside. Who would know just why and how they came to rest here? Maybe the first was a man from Clifden, a Connemara lobster village. Maybe he sent word home about the rocky coast, laved with that same cold water that put a taste on the meat in a lobster. One man could have told another, the way men of the sea will talk. Anyway, some were men and women from Galway, from the Claddagh, the fishermen's quarter South of O'Brien's Bridge. Some had the soft, dark eye that whispered of a time when Galway was full of Spanish cousins. Some, too, would have had the dark hair to match if it hadn't turned to grey and white long since. For they are old now

and dwindling away among themselves, these ones who remember another home in another country. They had children, of course, but they don't count in this story. They went to the High School and the motion pictures and away to the cities when the time came. Few of them would have known what a wake was, and only a very few of these would have cared at all.

That's why it was only the old ones who ventured out in the moist air that night to visit the house of the dead and sit with Birdie Flaherty and the last there was of Dan, on a board between two chairs, straight as a candle underneath the sheet.

Among the first to arrive was Neil Gannon, and he had Joyce and Fahy with him. Although he'd taken off his sea boots, he still wore his fisherman's jersey and he carried the tools for the night's work wrapped in a cloth beneath his arm. Joyce and Fahy put down a package that each had brought on a table against the wall. Joyce's was a paper bag and glass clinked when he set it down.

"A bit of ham, Birdie," said Fahy.

"Kate'll be by with a nut cake and today's bread as soon as she's fed the hens," said Neil.

The three men knelt beside the corpse for a few minutes. When they rose, Neil said, "We'll be getting out to the shed now, for we've a long night's work ahead of us."

Joyce paused at the door to the kitchen at the back of the room, turning before he went out after the others. "I'll miss Dan, Birdie. He'd a laugh worth a month's wages."

"Thank you, Mick, for what you're doing for himself this night."

"Whisht," he replied as he went out, "it's a small thing surely."

Now, O'Flaherty's house was not a large house, and it wasn't long before it contained most of the small neighborhood. As the room filled, an accumulation of covered pans and dishes overspread the table and room for the clinking packages had to be found beneath it. As each one had come in, respects and sympathy had been paid to the lady of

the house and each had knelt stiffly for a prayer beside the body.

All knelt again before their chairs, ranged about the wall, while the young curate who had come over from the town parish eight miles away read a service. During this quiet time, the sounds of hammer and saw could be heard from the back of the house. The priest paused and raised his head from the book, then went on in a stronger voice.

"What is that noise out there, Mrs. Flaherty?" he asked when he had finished.

"Ah, Father, it's just a few dear friends of Dan's that he'd have been out in the boats with tomorrow knocking together a bit of a coffin to put him down in."

The young priest looked about him at the people whispering privately to one another. This sort of a situation had never been mentioned at the seminary, and, as he hadn't yet the wisdom that comes with age, he said nothing.

"Will you stay for a bite, Father?"

"No, thank you, Mrs. Flaherty. I have another call to make this evening. You understand now, the Mass tomorrow will be at eight o'clock?"

"I do," she said. "The undertaker'll be here half after six."

"Is it Mr. Haynes from the town?" he asked.

"It is."

"Then he'll know what to do. I'll say good night."

Shortly after the priest had left, Fahy came in with a piece of fish line and took the measure of the corpse. "Ah, it's many the strong fish you drew out of the water with this line, Dan Flaherty," he said at large as he measured.

"Is it a close fit you'll be giving himself?" inquired Con Gavin.

"The night is short and we'll have to make the boards do," Fahy explained. "It'll maybe be a bit snug, but what would he be wanting to move about for anyway?"

"What for, indeed," agreed Con. "Ah, thank you, Birdie," he said as a glass was handed to him.

"Take this out to the shed with you



when you go," said Birdie handing Fahy a bottle. "You'll find more glasses in the kitchen."

"God give his grand soul rest!" Con Gavin said before he tilted back his head.

As the evening wore on, the cluster of bottles beneath the table was gradually shrinking and, in proportion, the smoke and talk rose and hung under the low ceiling. "Do you mind the time . . . ?" started each new round of reminiscence.

"Do you mind the time Dan went up with a piece of rope to bring the goat down off the roof?"

"Was that the goat did eat the creeping vines was on the chimney?"

"Do you mind the time . . . ?"

"Do you mind the seal used to meet Dan's boat out beyond the narrows and follow him all day like a dog?"

"Do you mind the time . . . ?"

When Neil Gannon came in from the shed about four o'clock in the morning, he had to shout to make himself heard above the surging talk and laughter. "Do any of yous have a sheet of copper at home?"

"How big?" said Hugh Dinneen.

"About him-and-a-half." Neil nodded toward the sheet.

"I know a piece might be needing a good home," Dinneen said.

"Then get up out of that—and bring it around back when you come. I'll just take one of these back with me," Neil said, stooping to reach under the table. "The light's getting that dim out there in that shed."

"Do you mind the time the Kerry man's hooker was destroyed out from Galway?"

"Do you mind . . . ?"

"Sure, Kate, you're gay as a starling."

"I am that. Do you mind the time . . . ?"

"Did you ever hear up to this . . . ?"

"I'll drop out and see how the carpenters are coming along," said Con Gavin about five o'clock. "And I'll be taking one of these with me," kneeling down as he passed the table. "It's terrible dry work, surely, to be doing so early in the morning. Will one of yous kindly help an old (Continued on page 86)

The Most Spectacular
Advertising Stunt of the Gay 90's

by ARTHUR F. JOY

♪ On A Bicycle Built For Ten ♪

PROBABLY THE SHREWDEST, most spectacular advertising stunt of the Gay Nineties era occurred when Charles H. Metz, the Waltham, Mass., cycle wizard hired chorines and bloomer girls to appear in public places with his revolutionary new ten-seater bicycle called the "Oriten"—a huge machine which actually seated ten people! It was the only one of its kind in the whole wide world and, in an era when competition was fierce, its likeness was never duplicated by competitors anywhere. The cost of manufacture, over \$1200, is probably what stopped them. As it was, Metz built just that one. Today, it is exhibited at the Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan.

Interesting mechanical facts about this giant-step bicycle are:

The Oriten was an awesome thing to behold, a fact Charles Metz well knew. He sent the monster bicycle all over the United States and on many world tours. With ten chorus girls riding the machine, Metz had one of the best publicity stunts going.

20 sprocket wheels (largest 16",
smallest 6")
weight, 305 lbs.
length, 22'9", overall
saddles 22" apart
wheel diameters, 30"
supported up to 2500 lbs.
45 working days to build
exhibited throughout America
first riders were:

Charles H. Metz
Frank Sullivan





How the front girl steered the huge bicycle with its load of half a ton is a mystery.

Track, Cambridge. On one occasion, at the latter track, the "Oriten" is said to have been ridden a mile in 2 mins: 12 secs. It was ridden in many track meets. For a machine of such size it naturally was an eye-opener with the public.

Later, foreign bicycle dealers, with whom Metz did business, took the "Oriten" under wing and exhibited it all over Europe. Metz was shrewd in his publicity schemes, often making king-size bets to attract public attention to his line of fine racing bikes.

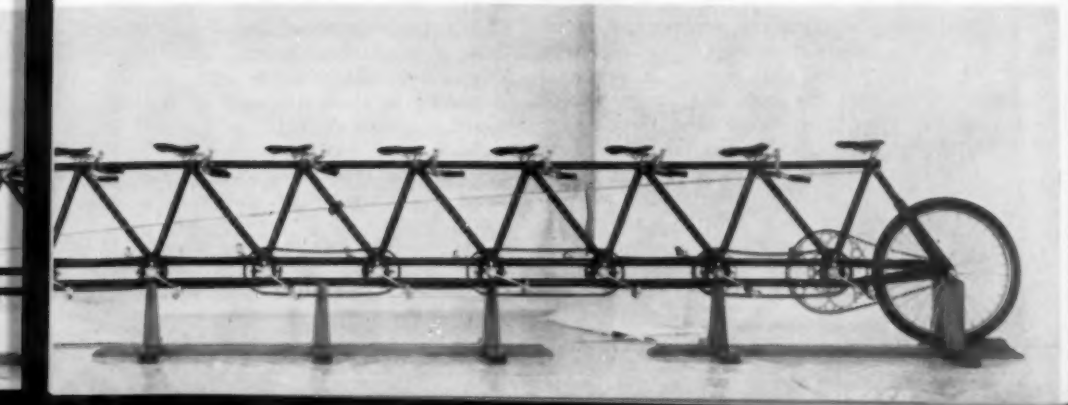
As to his use of girls to spectacularly publicize the "Oriten," of course this kind of publicity also served to call attention to the "wheels" coming out of his busy Waltham factories.

It has even been suggested that the famous Florodora girls were used on occasion to publicize the big bike. This may well be so. Premiere of the play "Florodora," it is noted, was said to be late in 1899. The photo of the ten girls on the bicycle, reproduced here, is from a program cover which, it is thought, depicts a New York stage backdrop. However, since this is said to be dated *early* 1899, it probably was a play other than "Florodora." Even so, the picture does highlight how Metz went after publicity in the grand manner!

One of the mysteries will always be just how the front girl on the first seat of this big bike, managed to steer the 305 lb. vehicle with its combined female rider weight of more than half a ton! Ad-

C. H. Wolf
George Weeks
W. Tether
T. Theriault
C. J. Spiegelberg
C. H. West
John Beach, and
W. Parrott

Metz entered his ten-seater in racing competition at such fast tracks as Bicycle Park in Waltham and Charles River



Ten men get set to parade the Oriten. The only identifiable man is Johnnie Robbins, in the lead position, who built the machine. Opposite page: A five passenger bike.

mittedly this was quite a task even for the much heavier men. It certainly took brawn to keep that big "wheel" on even keel.

One man out of the past who easily remembers ten girls riding into his town on the Metz "Oriten" is I. E. Boucher, now of New Ipswich, New Hampshire. Once an executive of Waltham Watch Company, Mr. Boucher says:

"I remember those girls, they were bloomer girls, going through Manchester, N. H. in 1898. I was a boy of twelve at the time. They certainly put on a great show. I remember that it felt like carnival time when they came through with that huge bicycle on exhibition tour."

It was Mr. Boucher who, many years later, found the "Oriten" after it had been missing from the public gaze for quite a while. He talked with the owners and finally arranged to have the "Oriten" placed permanently at the Ford Museum in Dearborn.

"Should you decide to write an article on this only and unusual ten-seated 'bike,'" he advised, "don't forget to glamorize the bloomer girls that rode it."

And we aren't forgetting. In fact, for more data of the same nature, we next called on "Mattie" Sullivan, one of the mechanics in the Metz bicycle factory in the old days.

"Yes, Waltham was a hectic town in those days," Mattie, now quite old, recalls. "I believe that Mr. Metz used actresses from the stage in Boston to pose with the "Oriten" frequently. He was a great man for advertising. Another thing he did, although of a different nature, he often put professional racers in his factory over winter—to keep them on the payroll until spring. It was good advertising for him and it guaranteed him some good racers when Bicycle Park opened for another season. They held all-night races here then, as well as six-day bike races. 5,000-10,000 was an average attendance. Albert Champion, inventor of the spark plug of the same



name, used to race for Mr. Metz. Champion, I remember, was a great six-day and grandstand man. He took a special speed bike Metz had made up which had been named the "One Thirty Orient" and actually rounded the one-third mile track three times (using a motor bike as a pacer) in 1 min: 30 secs."

Mr. M. F. Stark, historian and antique collector of Waltham, also vividly recalls some of those exciting days. He, too, worked at the Metz factory.

"I can remember," he recalls, "a newspaper picture showing ten girls about to sail for Europe by boat with the Metz "Oriten." They were all sitting on the seats with one foot on the ground, holding on to the handle bars. This was some time during the turn of the century. I believe that other girls went clear around the world, on tour. I was eight or nine years old about then. When I got a little older, I went to work in the Metz automobile assembly room. But I remember those girls on the "Oriten." They probably were chorines from some theatre. Anyhow, the ten-seater went around the world. I remember that."

Stark disagrees, however, with "Mattie" Sullivan as to who, among the men, made the Orient line of racing bikes world-famous.

"Harry Elks was the man who made



the Orient line famous," he says, with conviction. "Harry took Metz's 'One Thirty Orient' and he was the first man to do a mile in 1 min: 30 secs. I remember, because a racing bike always had a straight fork—which put the racer right over the front wheel. The front wheel on the 'One Thirty' was smaller than the rear one, and Harry used this particular Orient to break the record."

Mr. Stark has some vivid memories of Bicycle Park days, too.

"The straight aways were wood," he remembers, "but the curves were cement. The grandstand was on the west side, and the judge's stand was directly in front of it. It was a covered grandstand. The track," he recalls, "had about a forty-five degree angle to it. Most of the spectators came on bicycles to see the races. I recall that the first ones to come would stack their wheels leaning against one another. As others came, they stacked their wheels against those of the first-comers. Soon, the wheels were stacked on both sides in a great line, all leaning against one another."

"Groups from bicycle clubs came from all over. June 17 . . . Labor Day . . . 4th of July, were big days. The girls used to ride in on tandems. There would always be a comedy man or trick rider in the club group. He would clown all the time.

Then, if anyone got a puncture, three or four fellows would drop right out of the line and help out. Columbia put out a tire kit that had a tin box full of rubber bands and cement of some kind. There was also a rubber plug shaped like a T which was stuffed in the hole. Then, someone would blow up the tire with a pump and off they'd go.

"The racers (they won lots of prize money in the competition) wore brilliant two-tone costumes. Their trainers accompanied them everywhere. At the start of a race, the trainers would grab with one hand the bike's handle bar, and by the other hand, the back part of the seat. Thus gripped, when the starting gun went off, the trainers would run several steps with the bikes—fast as they could, to give each racer a quick start."

90-year old Edmund L. Sanderson of Waltham also remembers those days of busy bicycle activity.

"I worked for the Waltham Machine Works in those days," he says. "I remember Charles Metz. He was a fine man. Yes, his ten-seater bicycle, the 'Oriten,' went all over Europe on exhibition. I had two Orient bikes myself and liked them. Last one I had, had a copper-plated rim. It was wood before that. Wire spokes. There wasn't anything over the chain, though. I (Continued on page 84)

The Exact

The historic old city of Boston is filled with many fairy tales and legends. One legend has it that for a brief moment, on every April 1st, the bronze figure of George Washington, sitting astride his horse in the Public Garden, turns completely around and faces Tremont Street. The ever watchful photographer waited hours last April 1st and was successful in catching "Turnabout George."



Many have admired France's Henri Cartier Bresson's book, *The Decisive Moment*. Not as well known, perhaps, are the photographs of New England's Alton Hall Blackington, who employs a similar technique.

Moment

While spending a vacation at Hampton Beach, New Hampshire, the eagle eyed photographer snapped this photograph of two New Hampshire ladies and their pet hippo, sent to them by their brother from India. The Hippo was an oyster digging animal, so every other morning the sisters took the beast down to Hampton Beach to dig in the hard packed sand. This is just one of the unusual pictures that can be found if the photographer keeps his eyes open and his camera handy.



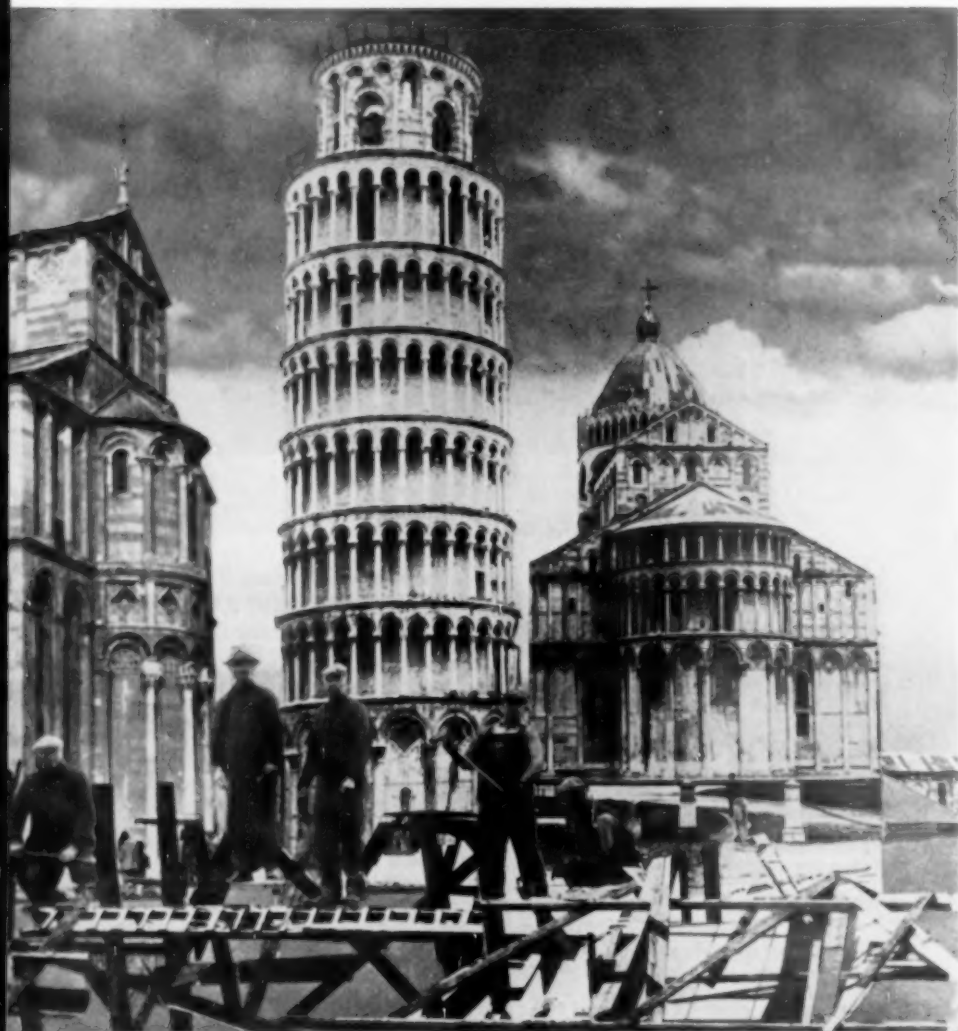
A genuine, unretouched photo of the last Great Horned Rabbit snared near Moosehead Lake, Maine. Years ago these horned rabbits were quite common, but none have been seen since this last specimen was captured.



Shortly after the hurricanes of 1954, the photographer, who was always looking for unusual things, noticed that the fierce winds had apparently bent the branches of these trees at Rye Beach, New Hampshire, so that they spelled out the name "Old Rye." When he went back later for motion pictures of this phenomenon the branches had straightened and the words could not be seen. He had snapped his camera at just the right time.



This rare travel shot was taken by Mr. Blackington during a visit to Pisa, Italy. At that time, the *Recostruzione del pergamo di Giovanni Pisano* was under way, and the famous tower was restored to its original vertical position. There was so much criticism over straightening the Pisa tower that it was allowed to sag back into its former leaning position. But this exclusive snapshot, taken at the exact moment, shows the Leaning Tower of Pisa in its brief, upright position.





The Country Store

Salt Pork and Powder, Shot and Flints
Cheese, Sugar, Rum and Peppermints

Old Holland Gin and Gingerbread
Brandy and Wines, all sorts of Thread

Segars I keep, sometimes on bunch;
Materials all for making Punch

Biscuits and Butter, Eggs and Fishes
Molasses, Beer and Earthen Dishes

Books on such subjects as you'll find
A proper food to feast the mind

Shells, Chocolate, Stetson's Hoes
As good as can be (I suppose)

Knives, Forks, Spoons, Pitchers, Platters
A gun with shot wild Geese bespatters

Shirts, Frocks, Shoes, Mittens, also Hose
And many other kinds of Clothes

Shears, Scissors, Awls, Wire, Bonnet Paper
Old Violin and Cat Gut Scraper

Shagbarks and Almonds, Wooden Boxes
Steel traps (not stout enough for Foxes

But excellent for holding Rats
When they elude the Paws of Cats)

Narcotics, Stimulants and Pungents
With half a dozen kind of Unguents
Lee's, Anderson's and Dexter Pills
Which cure at least a hundred ills

Perfume most grateful to the Nose
When mixed with Snuff or drop'd on clothes

I've many things I shall not mention
To sell them cheap is my intention.
Lay out a dollar when you come
And you shall have a glass of Rum

N.B. Since man to man is so unjust
'Tis hard to say whom I can trust
I've trusted many to my sorrow
Pay me today, I'll trust tomorrow

Author Unknown

Poetry

The Other Side of Town

MARCIA MASTERS

Old wooden houses of grey
With toothless porches and sullen yards,
And often the railroad tracks nearby
Swollen with freight cars, and shacks spilling
over
As if they would melt in an earnest sun,
Almost always have lilacs—
The remains of some springtime teasing their
sky.

But after the buds have dried with their secrets,
The fragrance has hurried its promise out of
the boughs,
There is nothing left but an anguish of weeds
and rubbish.
And the leaves hang darkened
As if abandoned to summer's sorrow,
And the dry taste of sunlight in days to come.

City Shower

SARA KING CARLETON

*"The spring rain falls," she sang,
Moving along the sodden river-field,
"And in the shadow of the flying bird
Rises the fragrant plum tree blossoming."*

I hear her singing still,
Over wet pavement where the gutters run
With water like the force of mountain streams,
Over gray cobblestones and asphalt roads.
I cannot close her out. I close the door

And she is singing on,
The little Japanese girl, slight and small,
Her dark hair folded flat against her head,
Her face uplifted. There,

Over the sludging feet of marching men,
*"The spring rain falls," she sang,
And sings again.*

YANKEE APRIL 1956

Less Than a Whisper

JOSEPH JOEL KEITH

Less than a whisper, something calls from
sleep,
something insistent, something without words;
something that summons from another sphere,
region familiar, "Oh, come near; come near."
It is more quiet than midnight's infant birds.

Far in the regions not of house or ground,
something of kinship beckons me to rise,
gently, so gently, and with no command;
best of the lovers, with no touch of hand,
nor with the lure of lips or widened eyes,

something unlost, like afterthought of song,
calls from the silence clearly with no tongue.
Pure is the waker, pure is the silent time,
when all that is said is heaven's blended rhyme
tuned to the strain the innocent has sung.

The Spring

ELIZABETH COATSWORTH

So, as one by one
Times dries the wells
and tarnishes the streams of the deep valleys,
we must discover
the path that leads into the barren hills
beyond the known field and the final tree
and come to the small spring which wells from
rock,
cradled by ferns, under the ordered stars.

Snow Drops

LAWRENCE P. SPINGARN

What is the first flower, the first bud?
Is it the spring leaf, the proud hedge?
Was it that red berry, red as blood
Beneath the moon on the bleak ledge?
No, it is none of these. Look below,
There at your feet, where the wind dies
And small fists break the crust of snow—
These are first buds to my cold eyes.

37



New England's

MARDI

A Two antlered bucks drive a car with arrow-pierced bunters lashed to the fenders, during the "Say it with Music Parade."



B Dense crowds of chilled spectators wait for the 50 floats, 31 bands, 47 marching units of Woonsocket's Mardi Gras parade.

C A shivering Cinderella was pulled along the parade route in a pony drawn coach. The parade lasted well over two hours.

D Two small fry are fascinated by a boy in a grotesque head during the parade. 25,000 spectators jammed Woonsocket's streets.

E A rear paddle-wheel Dixie Showboat peopled with entertainers sails down the parade route for 1st non-commercial prize.

F King Jace III and Queen Beverly Di-Cesare chat during the Masquerade Ball. The King turned out to be Roland H. Benoit.



C



D

by VIRGINIA W. BRYDEN

GRAS

■ Woonsocket, Rhode Island was a zany city for the ten days before Ash Wednesday when the Junior Chamber of Commerce sponsored its third annual Mardi Gras. Despite the chilly weather of last February, there was a continuous whirl of parties, dances, concerts, receptions and parades, ending with the climactic Masquerade Ball. Even during the day citizens wore their costumes to work and the mayor wore black face and a hobo outfit. Rain and snow, ravages of floods, economic retrogression, did not deter the Jaycees from proving that the therapy of laughter is good medicine.



F

E





Gorgeous, original and ridiculous costumes were worn at the Masquerade Ball. The prize for the funniest went to Madame Pompadour and her pet poodle (her husband) whom she had on a leash. A gold-painted and gold-garbed young lady was judged the most original and the most beautiful winner was a lovely ballerina.

The crew-cuts and hep-cats stomped and hollered at a jazz festival with six top orchestras and the hot trumpets of Bobby Hackett, Herb Pomeroy and Boots Mussulli. On another day nine high school bands gave a combined concert interspersed with a dance and a jam session. The Jaycees have already begun planning for next year.

Senator Estes Kefauver, the principal speaker at a formal dinner, removes his glasses to kiss lovely Queen Beverly. She was almost completely exhausted after over one hundred public appearances, which included being whisked to New York to appear on Steve Allen's evening TV show, and Dave Garroway's morning TV program.



Can-can dancers perform during the Coronation ceremonies. The Queen was chosen for being the top vote-seller among 29 pretty contestants. Gifts were showered upon her by merchants and after resting during Lent she embarked on an all-expense tour for two weeks in the Caribbean, the very welcome first prize in the contest.



During the festivities misrule was the order of the day. A newly married couple left the church between an honor guard of firemen, who were forming for the morning parade of ancient and new equipment. Later, at the reception, the party was crashed by two revelers, a lion and a bear, who danced with the bride and maid of honor.



King Jace III and Queen Beverly with two royal Princesses, Constance Cassavant and Claire Gautbier—runners up in the contest. Their prize was a trip to Montreal. After ten days of merriment, Woonsocket settled back to normal. Costumes were put away with care; they will be used next year for an even bigger New England Mardi Gras.



by WALTER LEWIS SMITH

The Famous Ride Nobody Remembers

MUCH HAS BEEN WRITTEN and recorded in the annals of history of Paul Revere's Ride and the epoch making, patriotic activities of New England Minute Men on and immediately after the memorable "18th of April in '75." There was, in addition, according to antiquarians, a Connecticut Minute Man who also had an hand in spreading the news of the British march. He was Israel Bissell of East Windsor, Connecticut, an experienced and faithful postrider between Boston and New York who had often carried dispatches for the Sons of Liberty of the two towns.

Colonel Joseph Palmer of Braintree heard of the startling events in Lexington, rode into Watertown near the Charles River and hurriedly penned this message:

"Wednesday Mornng
near 10 of the Clock.

Watertown

To all friends of American Liberty let it be known that this Morning before break of day a Brigade . . . marched to Lexington . . . where . . . they fired with-

out any Provocation and killed 6 Men and wounded 4 others . . . we find that another Brigade are now upon their March from Boston . . . The bearer Israel Bissell is charged to alarm the Country quite to Connecticut, and all persons are desired to furnish him with fresh Horses, as they may be needed. I have spoken with Several who have seen the dead and the wounded . . .

J. Palmer—one of the Comy of Sy."

On the nineteenth of April, 1775 about 11 A.M., Bissell left Watertown, Massachusetts with the above message and soon galloped up to the town meeting-house in Worcester. He did not have to rein in his horse, it dropped dead, "flecked with blood from much spurring and spent with fatigue," (quoted from an old history of Worcester County). Other historians give an account of "a rider on a white horse calling the alarm with a celerity until then unknown." He made the incredible time from Watertown to Worcester, a distance of about thirty miles, in less than two hours, over country roads in those days none too

good from spring thaws and rain.

After obtaining a fresh mount, Bissell was promptly on his way along the Old Boston Post Road, crossed Kingsbridge, (where Broadway now crosses the Harlem River in New York City), and thence down the Bloomingdale Road, (now Broadway) to Wall Street. His route took him through Putnam, Milford, Stratford, Norwalk and Stamford. Near Putnam, he sighted Israel Putnam working in a field on his farm and passed the word to him of what had occurred at Concord Bridge and along Battle Road. Putnam was on his way to the scene almost at once, while Bissell resumed his ride toward Philadelphia. Shortly after he passed through Fairfield, forty-four men of that town banded themselves into a military company and left for Lexington.

Abram Wakeman, who gives a detailed itinerary of Bissell's ride in "The Lexington Alarm," which is in pamphlet form at the Western Reserve Historical Society says, "it was the shouts of Bissell as he passed through the villages and towns, 'To Arms! To Arms! The war has be-

gun!' that fanned the spark of patriotism and hurried the Minute Men to Concord and changed defeat to a glorious victory."

According to Wakeman, who gives places, dates and distances, Bissell left New York April twenty-third, going via Elizabethtown and Trenton and arrived in Philadelphia and the Continental Congress on the twenty-fourth of April 1775, having made the entire journey from Watertown, 345 miles, in five days. His ride included stops along the way for proper endorsements by the Committee of Safety and copies of Colonel Palmer's letter had to be made and distributed.

Having arrived in Philadelphia, Bissell completed his assignment, but far beyond Colonel Palmer's instructions. Here this veteran postrider passed into history. Never has a trust been more faithfully carried out and the hero so soon forgotten, perhaps because, "he had no Longfellow to send his name down to posterity in rhymed couplets," nor as good a press agent as had Paul Revere. Israel Bissell was twenty-five when he made this memorable ride which helped to free the colonies from British rule.



This New England

8

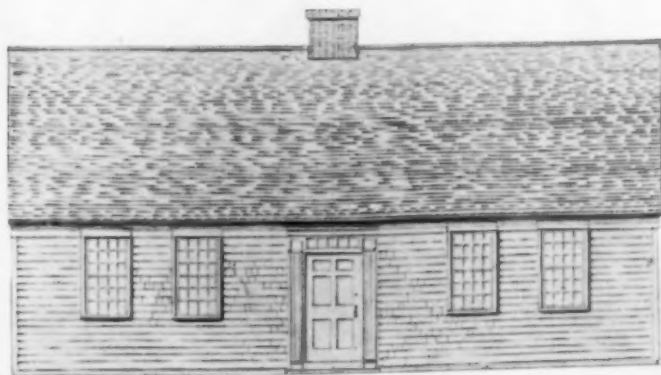


THE AUTHENTIC

Cape Cod House

by CHESTER A. CROCKER

The Cape Cod House, built by early New Englanders between 1640 and 1800, is perhaps America's only original architecture. Finding materials unavailable for the brick and stone houses they knew in England, early settlers turned to wood and simple design and thus the American Cape Cod House came into being. You can search the ten southern counties of England, from Cornwall to Kent, from whence most of the Cape settlers came, and yet you will be unable to find a single Cape Cod house of this design. It was conceived 300 years ago, and it was done, finished, and not one thing can be added to, or detracted from, to improve it. However, variations have been attempted. There are thousands of so-called "Cape Cod" houses that bear almost no semblance to the original, authentic Cape House, a sketch of which appears below. The Ephraim Percival House in South Sandwich, Massachusetts, on the opposite page, is one of the most beautiful Cape houses. In this case, the variation of an added vestibule and ell is interesting, perfectly permissible, and in excellent taste.



This is the Capt. Bears house in the village of Centerville, town of Barnstable, Massachusetts. When its present owner, Stephen Hayes, bought it ten years ago, it was dilapidated. In about four years, Mr. Hayes, who is a carpenter, mason, cabinet maker, painter and landscape gardener, and his wife have restored it to its present excellent condition. A full size Cape Cod House, such as this, should be thirty-six feet long by twenty-six feet wide by eight feet high at eaves.

The front door is centered and is flanked by two windows on either side. The roof of a true Cape Cod house is slightly bowed for greater support, and never should be steeper than a pitch of nine inches to the foot. The chimney is low and massive, and serves both front rooms, for the early settlers of Cape Cod knew no luxuries such as stoves or furnaces. A full size—sometimes called a "double Cape Cod"—house has four rooms on the first floor, and three rooms on the second floor.





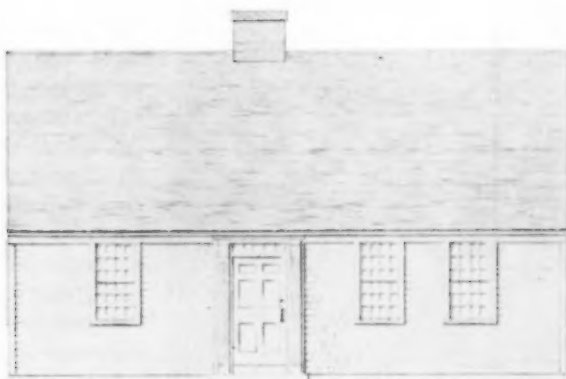
The bedroom of the Hayes House. Note the simplicity of the fireplace and the adjoining cupboard. Early Cape Cod houses were freezing cold in winter, for carpenters of the time lathed and plastered directly onto the inside of the wall boarding or planking. This left no air space between, resulting in a very great heat loss and cold walls. No wonder hundreds of all ages perished of pneumonia (they called it lung fever) during the winter.



If one would simulate a genuine Cape Cod house, it is important to use small, paned windows of six by eight inch glass. There should be twelve panes in both the top and bottom sash, although twelve on top and nine on the bottom are frequently seen. The tops of the window frames must be high up under the eaves. The window frames should be narrower than they are thick, so that they protrude about one and one half inches from the shingled walls, as is shown here in Stephen Hayes house.



The beautifully proportioned doorways are traditional in the authentic Cape Cod House. Nearly every real old Cape house has the front door low enough to take above it a narrow window sash containing five window panes six by nine inches each. A great many of these fine old houses have beautiful fan light windows over the front door. The door shown here was carefully restored by Stephen Hayes and his wife.



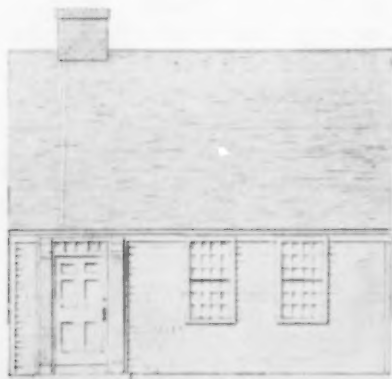
When the door to a Cape Cod House is placed so that one window is placed on one side of it, and two windows placed on the other side, it becomes a "three-quarter" house. The classic dimension of such a house is 30 feet long by 24 feet wide by 8 feet high to eaves.

This house, in Marstons Mills, now owned by Mr. Robert Hodson, was built in 1780, by Benjamin Wright whose son, William, born here, survived the wreck of the "Cannibal" brig Essex, 1820.





The baby of the Cape family is the so-called "half house." Only 21 feet long, by 29 feet wide, by 8 feet high to eaves, the extra depth allows for considerably more room in an otherwise pretty small house, and yet does not throw it out of proportion. The roof has the same 9 inch to the foot slant, or pitch, and shows a large roof surface. The door is placed at one side and the two windows to its right or left. It should never be located in the middle of the house. This half house, known as the Edward Hinkley House, is now owned and occupied by the Village Historical Society of Osterville, Massachusetts. Its age is not known.





As has been said, there are any number of so-called "Cape Cod" houses which deviate greatly from the original, authentic design. The houses on these pages, while certainly different from the one story design, are definitely authentic Cape Cod buildings. The house above, in Osterville, Massachusetts, is, in effect, just a two story, three-quarter Cape Cod House.

Note the placement of the windows and the fan-light over the door. Below, a two story, full sized, hip roofed Cape, belonging to Edward K. Davis, of Osterville. The main part of the house is certainly traditional although the additions attached to it may be excessive.





The house above is claimed, by some, to be the oldest in Sandwich, Massachusetts. Known as the Abram Hoxie place, it originally may have had a thatched roof. Copied, presumably, from the old fashioned saltbox, it is known as a saltbox house. The two story, hipped roof, Cape Cod, below, was built in 1747 by Cornelius Sampson. The interesting addition of a cupola is called a widow's walk. When so many so-called "Cape Cod" houses are now being built all over the United States, it is too bad that the original, unique design of our early settlers is not more often followed accurately.





Personality Portfolio

PHIL STONG, WHO MAKES his home in Washington, Connecticut, is best known as the author of "State Fair," the novel that made him famous, but he hasn't been resting on his laurels. Since that first novel appeared in 1932 he has written seventeen successful novels, including a sequel to "State Fair" published twenty years later, as well as a number of important non-fiction works and several children's books. The sequel to "State Fair" was called "Return in August," and Phil Stong says he *had* to write it finally; thousands of people through the years wrote to him asking what happened to Pat and Margie, central characters in the book, who (they thought) should have gotten married at the end of the book but didn't. In two screen versions they ended up as man and wife but that didn't satisfy readers of the book. Well, now, the sequel has been written and that should be that. "State Fair," which has become an American classic, was written in five weeks at the suggestion of his wife (the former Virginia Swain and a novelist in her own right) who thought Phil ought to write a novel with the Iowa State Fair as background, since he was born in Iowa and knew the locale. Phil Stong went to Hollywood to help with the first screen version of "State Fair," the cast of which included Will Rogers, Janet Gaynor, Lew Ayres and Louise Dresser. Then he returned to New York to write a second novel, "Stranger's Return," which financially was more successful than the first, and enabled the Stong's to come to Connecticut and buy the house on an eleven-acre tract of land where they still live. Phil Stong's newest children's book which has just been published by Dodd-Mead is all about "A Beast Called an Elephant." Just finished and to be published by Doubleday during the year is a novel about California's gold rush days which will probably be called "Horse Barnsby." Then, says Phil Stong, he'll get busy on a non-fiction book to use up some of the gold rush research material he had left over from the novel.



ARTHUR WATTS, OF SOUTHWINGTON, CONNECTICUT, after a lifetime as a song-and-dance man extending from the days of O'Brien's Minstrels through the wonderful vaudeville years on the Keith circuit to the sound stages of Hollywood, finally in 1944 put away his tall hat and tails and hung up his fifty-year-old dancing shoes . . . only to start a new career. Arthur Watts, dancer, became Arthur Watts, artist. The change wasn't that abrupt. Trouping about the country he had found time to do almost as much painting as dancing but he had never taken his art too seriously; that is, he had never tried to sell his work. Until he retired he had never sold one. He showed a few to furniture stores and they bought. Watts painted the kind of warm, friendly scenics people like to have on their living room walls. This year he was given a one man show at a wayside furniture store and more than four hundred people came to view his paintings. It was publicity Watts really doesn't need now . . . he sells all he can turn out . . . but it fulfilled a boyhood ambition, and what trouper misses an opportunity to play to a full house? He works three or four hours a day, roughing out several paintings at a time. The completed painting is usually finished in four or five hours, unless it's a big one (bigger than 12 by 16 inches, like the nine by twelve foot painting of the crucifixion which was so large he couldn't get it out of the house when he moved). He hasn't had time to be retired and continues to be a pretty prolific artist. Better check that painting "White Birches" over your fireplace . . . it might be a recent Arthur Watts (purchased by your decorator from his favorite furniture store) or it might be from his early period, left in some theater dressing room in his \$500 a week days when vaudeville knew some very talented people.

THE YEAR 1953 WILL long be remembered by the alumni of the Rhode Island School of Design for two important reasons. In order they were the 75th anniversary of the college and the advent of a new alumni secretary and editor of the Alumni Bulletin. Almost immediately, things began to happen. The staid Bulletin took on new life and form. Alumni around the country, particularly the "old grads," sat up and took notice. Could it be—they asked—that the old school spirit had finally come to life? Who was responsible for this phenomenon?

The answer was a lady. Into the office had come a member of the class of '33, Hazel M. Goff. Hazel, or "Pete" as she is known around the college, proved to be a woman of ideas and determination. There were things to be done and "Pete" lost no time in getting them under way.

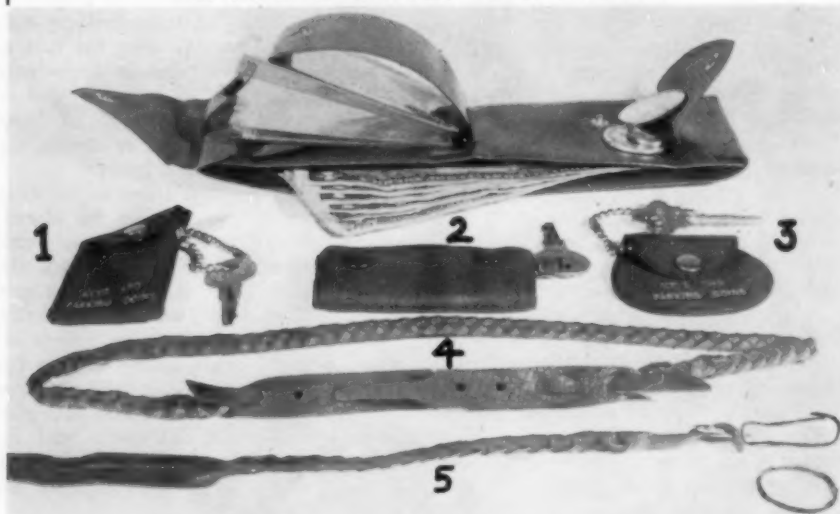
The exciting climax to this new order came at the 40th General Conference of

the American Alumni Council, held at Bretton Woods, N. H., on June 27, 1955. For the first time in the history of the Alumni Bulletin, in competition with college papers from all over the nation, it was awarded first prize for appearance—in its class and first prize for student coverage—in the same group. A third honor rated the Bulletin as among the top ten in the magazine group.

Three outstanding tributes in three years of effort. No wonder the alumni group are feeling a new sense of pride in the old school. But this is not the whole story. "Pete" has injected a new spirit into the alumni around Providence. There were only 150 at the college reunion of 1952. Pete rallied 253 on her first try—1953. The following year saw a record gathering of 560 and so it goes under the dynamic leadership and enthusiasm of this young woman. Did someone say "Never underestimate the power of a woman"?



UNUSUAL OFFER!



Now being offered for the first time! One piece* Billfold and Card Case. This billfold is actually cut from *one* piece of the following choice leathers: genuine select East Indian Crushed Goat in black or brown, genuine tan Pig Skin, genuine Morocco, dark brown. Your choice of leather. This unusual product is designed to give many years of service due to its unusual one piece construction, which eliminates all stitching, lacing or sewing. It is actually double thickness in all points of wear. Has secret pocket for bills, coin purse, pockets for papers, and four detachable containers for passes and cards. There is also a place for a spare key. Complete price for this Billfold and Card Case is just \$8.00, postpaid. At no extra cost, your initials and the following insignia will be stamped on the Billfold in best quality gold: Masons, Elks, Army, American Legion and the Catholic emblem of St. Christopher. The billfold and all our other products are suitable for both men and women.

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(Daniel Boone plate shown above was made for Miss Eula M. Hill, great, great granddaughter of the famous pioneer. Plates may be ordered from: The House of Boone, 815 Irving Street, Muskogee, Okla. Sketch was reproduced from an original drawing made by the famous Indian artist, Dick West.)

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FOOD

by NANCY DIXON

Cookbooks For Your Collection

YOU CAN HAVE MORE fun for a dime! By that we mean by sending your dime to Bob Brown, 37 W. 8th Street, New York 11, New York for his catalog DRINKIANA AND GASTRONOMIANA or Catalogue #1 BOOKS ABOUT FOOD AND DRINK.

Bob Brown, food writer and book merchant has written fifteen cookbooks. His first book is the famous WINE COOKBOOK which has been reprinted so many times that the author says "it's still helping to pay my own wine bill." His latest and newest is THE COMPLETE BOOK OF CHEESE (with foreword by Clifton Fadiman.)

How did a food writer become a book merchant? Mr. Brown lived abroad thirty years. Recently upon his return to the United States he decided to sell his enormous private collection. "The response was so good that I decided to continue to buy and sell books." Today in his combination home and office in Greenwich Village you can see nothing but books . . . miles and miles of books; tons and tons of books. You should really make an appointment and browse through his place . . . just as a select circle of food experts have known enough to do. There you'll find all manner of books on food which will generate ideas. You'll find a book printed in Latin in 1590;



an old French Cookbook *Le Plaisirs de la Table*. He has many English and American books which afford cookery ideas. Some will stimulate your laughter. In *Praise of Drunkenness*, *The Happy Glutton* and *How to Cook Husbands* are a few examples. You can't help but be amazed by the fascinating thirty-two page catalogue which is only the beginning to a more fascinating food hobby.

(All books are in their original bindings and in good condition unless otherwise noted. Books are returnable within ten days if found unsatisfactory. Prices are marked in the catalogue and cash should accompany your order.)

So-Long-Pies

(Great for that late with-coffee party snack)

- ¾ cup well seasoned thick white sauce
- 1 small can (2¼ oz.) deviled ham
- ½ cup chopped walnuts
- 1 cup finely diced turkey or chicken
- 2 pkgs. pie crust mix

Combine the first four ingredients. Prepare the pie crust mix as directed on package. Roll out ⅛ inch thick. With cookie cutters cut 36 circles 2½ inches in diameter and 36 circles 1½ inches in diameter. On large circles place 1½ teaspoons of filling. Place the smaller circles on the top. Overlap the edges and press

with tines of fork. Fry in deep fat heated to 375°F until golden brown. Drain on absorbent paper. Makes 36.

Whipped Sour Cream Cake

- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 egg yolks
- ½ cup cold water
- 2 cups cake flour, sifted once
- 1¼ cups sugar
- 1 teas. soda
- 3 teas. baking powder
- ½ teas. salt
- 1 teas. vanilla
- 2 egg whites beaten

Whip the sour cream. Whip the egg yolks and the water and add to sour cream. Sift together all the dry ingredients (three times) and add to the mixture. Add vanilla. Beat egg whites until stiff and fold into mixture. Pour into well greased and floured cake pans, bake in 350°F to 375° oven for twenty to twenty-five minutes. Cool and frost. Makes three layers.

Squash Fritters

(Something different with your Easter Ham)

- 1 pound Hubbard squash
- ½ teas. salt
- 4 cups flour
- 1 T. baking powder
- 1 cup milk

Cover squash with water and boil until tender. Put through a sieve. (Frozen could be used.) Sift the flour and the baking powder into the pulp. Blend the milk into the mixture. Set in a warm place for fifteen minutes. Cut dough in one inch strips and twist into cruller or pretzel shapes. Brown in deep hot fat.

Old Fashioned Card Gingerbread

- 1/3 cup butter or margarine
- 1/3 cup brown sugar firmly packed
- 1 egg well beaten
- ½ cup molasses
- 1¾ cups sifted enriched flour
- 1½ teas. ginger
- ½ teas. cinnamon
- ¾ teas. salt
- ½ teas. baking powder
- 1 T. sugar
- 1 teas. powdered coffee

Cream the butter or margarine to the consistency of mayonnaise. Beat in the sugar and continue beating until fluffy. Stir in the egg and molasses. Mix and sift salt, flour and spices and baking powder. Stir in gradually. Chill. Roll ¼ inch thick on lightly floured board. Place on a greased cookie sheet. Combine sugar and instant coffee and sprinkle over top. Bake in a moderate 350°F oven for twenty minutes. Cut in squares.

APRIL COMBINATION SPECIAL

One Home Cured Smoked Shoulder, not less than 4½ lbs.; 2 lbs. Fancy Farmers Pork Sausage; 1 lb. Cell. Wrapped Home Cured Bacon; 1 lb. Beef Bacon, cut from Western Beef; 8½ lbs. for \$5.50. Above order delivered in N. E. Our sausage season closes April 30 until Oct. 1. We ship smoked goods the year round.

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RECIPE CONTEST

FIRST prize of \$5.00 to Mrs. Alison Christy Kyle, 31 Marwood Road, North Manorhaven, Long Island, New York for her recipe for Date Scotch Picnic Loaf

- 1½ cups sugar
- 2½ teaspoons double acting baking powder
- 2¼ cups sifted cake flour
- 1 teas. salt
- ¾ cup vegetable shortening
- ¾ cup milk
- 1 teas. orange extract
- 3 eggs, unbeaten

Sift the first four ingredients into a mixing bowl. Drop in the shortening and add one-half cup milk, flavoring extract and one egg and beat 300 strokes (or three minutes on electric mixer at low speed) scrape spoon and bowl or beaters. Add remaining milk and two eggs and beat 200 strokes (2 minutes on mixer at low speed). Bake in a greased oblong pan 9 x 13 x 2 in a moderate oven 350°F 40-45 minutes. On top of cake spread

Date-Scotch Icing

- 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 3 T. vegetable shortening
- 2 T. butter or margarine
- ¼ teas. salt
- ¼ cup chopped pecans
- 1/3 cup milk
- 1½ cups sifted confectioners' sugar
- ½ cup chopped dates

Combine the sugar, shortening and butter and salt in a saucepan. Bring slowly to a boil over low heat, stirring constantly, add milk. Blend thoroughly and then bring to a boil. Boil gently over low heat for three minutes stirring constantly. Remove from the heat; cool slightly, add confectioners' sugar and beat until thick enough to spread. Stir in dates and pecans.

SECOND prize of \$3.00 to Miss C. Feeney, 17 Hillside Avenue, Johnston, Rhode Island for her recipe for

Lemon Pie De Luxe

- 2 lemons
- 2 cups sugar
- 4 eggs
- Pastry for 2 crust pie

Slice lemons paper thin, rind and all after removing seeds. Place in a bowl and pour over the sugar. Mix well and let stand for two hours. Beat the eggs well and pour over the lemons. Line a pie plate with pastry and pour in the mixture. Cover with top crust. Bake at 450°F for fifteen minutes and then at 375°F until done.



THIRD prize and \$1.00 and praises for ingenuity to Mrs. Celia Phelps, RD#1 Rensselaer, New York for her recipe for Oatmeal Health Cookie (Developed by Mrs. P. so that her children would eat their cereal!)

- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 3 cups oats, rolled and uncooked
- 1 cup nut meats
- 2 beaten egg whites
- 1 1/2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 teas. soda
- 1 teas. salt
- 1 T. cinnamon
- 1/2 cup wheat germ
- 1/4 cup molasses
- 1 teas. vanilla

Cream fat and sugars. Add sifted flour, soda, salt and spice and mix well. Now add oats, wheat germ and nuts. Blend. Then add molasses, beaten eggs and vanilla. Drop by teaspoons on oiled cookie sheet. Bake 10 minutes 375°F oven. Let stand for one minute before removing from sheet. Yield 4 dozen cookies.

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BEATRICE CHARLES CONFECTIONS

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Small Business & Crafts

by MALCOLM LAWRENCE FOSTER

To Keep Our Colonial Heritage



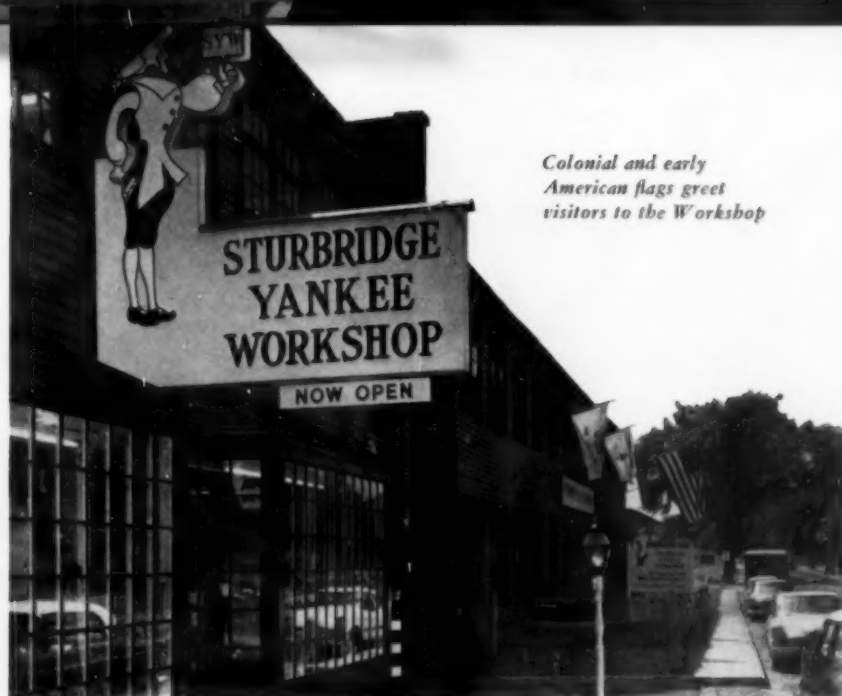
A RETIRED CALIFORNIA millionaire wrote to a friend in Australia asking where he had bought the Captain's chairs on his yacht. A month later, and after the correspondence had gone clear around the world, an order for six chairs was received by Sturbridge Yankee Workshop.

Thus one more customer was added to the list of over 100,000 that shop by mail or in person at the "nation's center for early American reproductions."

Situated on Route 20, near the junction of Route 15 in south-central Massachusetts where traffic from Albany and New York city converge for Boston and New England vacation centers, the Sturbridge Yankee Workshop is housed in two old factory buildings, the foundations of which date back to 1784.

Today, with a sprinkler system, oil heat and electricity as its only concessions to modernity, the "workshop" displays over 2500 items. Most of them are exact re-

Dating from the mid 1800's, the Workshop's rare horizontal water wheel claims the attention of Emma DuPaul and Ruth Weaver.



*Colonial and early
American flags greet
visitors to the Workshop*

productions of century old or older originals. Even the "modern" electric lamps with bases of coffee urns, eagles and milk cans reflect Colonial decor.

Tracing its history back to 1727 when first permanent settlers arrived, Sturbridge by 1775 was an important manufacturing and transportation center for the Revolution. In that year, Colonel Ebenezer Crafts opened the first Inn, now the famous Treadway Publick House. By 1800, the present Quinnebaug Canal which flows under the Sturbridge Yankee Workshop was completed. This led to a succession of plants on the "workshop" site when in 1841 the Snell interests built an auger plant. Their augers had been used to build the original *Constitution*. In 1852, the auger plant burned down but with the assistance of a public subscription was rebuilt only to burn down again in 1895 when the present buildings were erected.

Last vestige of the mid-19th century buildings is an old iron horizontal water wheel, one of only a few in the country which, with rope pulleys, once powered

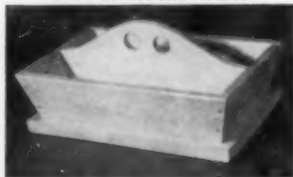
the auger plant. It miraculously escaped the ravages of the 1955 floods which severely damaged the "workshop" foundations.

The main character at Sturbridge Yankee Workshop is the large replica of an early New England craftsman which, in the form of a plywood cutout, greets visitors on signs and as a trademark decorates catalogues and letters. Dubbed "Silas Y. Whitaker" by the staff, he is an alias for the three very efficient businesses that are run under his aegis. The retail business which is most familiar to New England visitors, is staffed by a veritable group of experts on Americana.

Behind the scenes, however, lies the biggest volume of business in the Mail Order and Direct Mail divisions. The former, centering on one of the largest inventories of its kind in the world, is responsible for the quick, safe delivery of the daily orders that come in from newspaper and national magazine advertisements.

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Part of the Workshop's huge furniture display with an Essex Doughbox in foreground.

thousand "tests" to over 100 thousand names on stencils. It is charged with the distribution of the 44-page general catalog as well as the dozen or so special mailings each year.

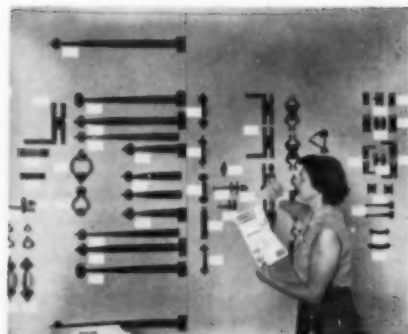
Sturbridge Yankee Workshop was opened in June 1953 by James and Hope Miller. In March, 1955, Robert Bergman, a New York educator, acquired the business. In 1955 there was a 35% increase in the volume of business.

When first opened, the S.Y.W. found most manufacturers loath to add Colonial reproductions to their lines and many of the first pieces were made practically "to order." Today, Americana is one of the most popular decors and there is no difficulty in finding quality manufacturers to make the products, so that the Yankee Workshop can adequately stock large inventories.

One little-known phase of the business started by Mr. Bergman is the development and exploitation of Yankee craft products for New England manufacturers. Working on a cooperative basis, the manufacturer and Sturbridge Yankee Workshop tests acceptance and distribution factors on new products with a Colonial motif. Using national advertising and direct mail, the product is quickly and inexpensively tested against known returns thus enabling manufacturers to gauge quantity and distribution acceptance on a national basis.

Famous now for its Colonial architecture and many fine old buildings, Stur-

APRIL 1956 YANKEE



Butterflies, Cockscombs and Duxbury Hearts are only a part of Colonial hardware items.

bridge is the home of Old Sturbridge Village where old-fashioned crafts are still practised and an entire Colonial village has been recreated. A visit to "Old Sturbridge" is a must for every New England vacationer who would see and feel the richness of our Colonial heritage.

At the same time a visit to Sturbridge Yankee Workshop is a good way to see how items of Colonial utility can fit into modern living. How, for instance, an Essex Split-Top Dough Box becomes a planter, sewing box or repository for junior's school supplies.

Of course, if you cannot visit S.Y.W. in person you can send 25c for their general catalogue and enjoy its page upon page of illustrated items of Yankee living products. They are beautiful, practical and reflect old-fashioned Yankee ingenuity in comfortable useful living.

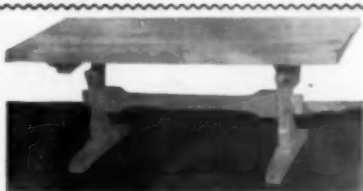
Notes by Damon Ripley

YANKEE'S Roving Reporter

THE FIFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION, Massachusetts Crafts of Today, will open to the public at the gallery of The Society of Arts and Crafts, 145 Newbury Street, Boston on April 9 to continue through April 27.

Organized by a committee representing eleven Massachusetts art museums acting in collaboration with the Massachusetts Association of Handicraft Groups, these annual exhibitions are open to all craftsmen residing

YANKEE APRIL 1956



TRESTLE COFFEE TABLE

A beautiful coffee table made of well seasoned New England pine. Built to ample proportions of 44" x 19 1/2" x 18" high.

Rich Antique Pine Finish \$31.95 postpaid
Unfinished \$25.50 postpaid

Add \$1.00 West of Mississippi
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DEAN TAYLOR
MEASURE

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REAL SCALLOP SHELL**

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in Massachusetts. Only original craft work of high standard will be considered and works in basic materials—clay, wood, metal, stone, textiles, leather, glass and plastics—are especially sought.

►If you have a small business or a craft which you think might interest YANKEE'S readers, I'd like to hear from you, whether you are an advertiser or not. Send along a photograph of yourself or of your product, and I'll let you know if I can use it. D.R.



Mr. A. B. Mirante in his workshop.

►Alexander's Woodshed, 408 Arch St., New Britain, Conn. is the place to visit if you are interested in Early American designs. It all started when Mr. A. B. Mirante made a miniature cradle and a salt box with an authentic Early American finish to put some of his plants in. These pieces were so admired

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Send list of Names for study and appraisal in view of making offers. Correspondence invited.

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135 Roxbury Road Garden City, N. Y.

by his friends that he was encouraged to make more planters of different designs, the most popular being the Ox Yoke Planter, representing an ox yoke and watering trough. This planter stands about 8½" high, is 10" long, and sells for \$3.95—plus 40c postage. The planters are distributed by a large mail order house, and are available directly from Mr. Mirante. Recently, he has begun making reproductions of ox yokes from 10" up to two feet long, for people who love the New England touch and need a size to fit their demands.



Mrs. Salter silk screening her napkins.

► I asked Mrs. Marion Salter of Newbury, Vermont about the Screen Printing section of her Hobby Hill Shop.

Apparently, it all started with the Cracker Barrel Bazaar, an annual summer event in Newbury, when the Shop was asked to supply screen-printed posters advertising the program. From there they went to printing notepaper, which is now sold under the name of "Hand Screened New England Scenes," and are from

BRING BLUEBIRDS INTO YOUR GARDEN

with this exact replica of the birdhouse used by a well-known authority on wildlife.



Simulated birchbark finish. Ready to put up. (Approx. size 5"x5"x7½")

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KIEN CHUNG TEA HOUSE

Dept. Y-46

Weston 93, Mass.

original paintings done by the local artist, C. H. Stamm. The scenes are all painted in and around the Connecticut River Valley. A box of ten assorted designs sells for one dollar. In addition, The Hobby Hill Shop screen prints wooden ware, such as "Howdy Doody" stools, children's clothes hangers, cigameters, T.V. lamps, etc. Since they also have an Antique Shop, they found a demand for old fringed napkins, and started hand printing them from old patterns. The napkins come in red, antique blue and green, and are printed on a fine percale with a long fringe. And, believe it or not, they are only 75c each—direct from Hobby Hill. Send off your order quick!

►Mrs. Avis Rossi, proprietress of the Tinkle-sonn Shop in Southborough, Mass., has turned her favorite hobby into a business that is growing by leaps and bounds. During the war she started making toy animals as gifts. Many people, seeing the adorable toys, began to submit swamping orders for the Christmas season, and it wasn't long before the Rossi family were turning over most of their home to the vast space needed for the creation of the



Mrs. Rossi and some of her stuffed toys.

animals and dolls.

The animals, some stuffed and others with wire frames, are made of wool, plush, fur and terrycloth. Many of them look real enough to talk, while others are amusing and colorful.

FASCINATING HOBBIES

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Our Catalog lists items you need for making beautiful articles in wood, metal, leather, reed, chair cane, pottery, etc. Complete tools and supplies for schools—homes—shop crafts—art courses; also looms and weaving materials. Instruction aids are also listed.
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10c brings folder, showing converters for all lamps with instructions for wiring vase, bottles, etc.

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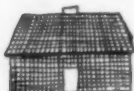
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MOUSE TRAP

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Free swatches, HOUSE OF BURLAP, Box 118, West Chatham, Mass.

There are dolls of every size and description, with beguiling expressions and imaginative clothes.

Last year Mrs. Rossi moved to a small building near her home, which had ample room for a shop as well as a workroom and storage space, and today is busier than ever turning out her very lovable toys, since she has decided to go into the mail order business. Many of her dolls are available by mail, so consult her ad in *YANKEE* and pick what you want. We guarantee you'll be pleased.

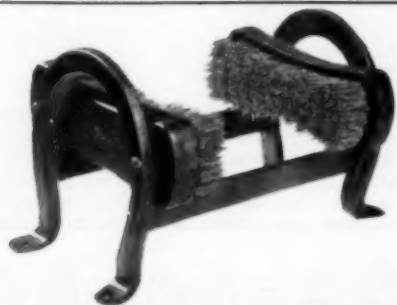


A ballet scene in wax made by Charles Gage.

►If you are a collector, you will be interested in the many antique shows scheduled in New England in the next few weeks. In Boston, the Copley Antique Show will be at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel, April 2-5. There will also be antique shows at Smith's School Arena in Northampton, Mass., April 17-19; at the West Hartford Armory in Hartford, Conn., April 23-27; at the Carpenter Hotel in Manchester, N. H., April 25-27; in Springfield, Mass., May 1-4; and in Exeter, N. H., June 7-8. On these last two, check for the location. Should be a lot of fun!

►George Charles Gage of Marion, Mass. has come forth with something unique in the way of artistic creations. His handmade flowers and "shadow box" ballet scenes have caused quite a sensation since he decided to start selling the products of his hobby.

His flowers are sculptured in paper and then dipped in wax which has been impregnated with delightful floral scents. Exquisite! However, his real love is for designing miniature ballet scenes which he fashions entirely from darning wool, rug wool, and paper. Each



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Real horseshoes, welded to sturdy cross-irons. Stout stable brushes, screwed to each horseshoe, clean sides of boots while soles are scrapped on cross-irons. Practical and decorative, a tacitful reminder at entrances and porch that snow, mud, slush and dirt belong outside. About 9 1/2" x 5 1/4". Weather-resistant black iron finish. Complete with screws for attaching to porch or steel pins to hold in ground. Specify screws or pins.

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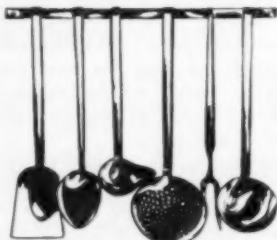
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of his graceful little ballerinas has lifelike individuality of expression—even tiny curls and rosy fingertips. The fine details of his "shadow boxes" portray scenes from many of the well-known ballets.

Recently, he has begun advertising in YANKEE, and is selling miniature ballerina lapel pins. Each little ballerina has a sequined tutu of white net, and comes in five colors of hairdo. Each little dancer is a masterpiece and is yours for only \$1.00. Send to Waxcraft Studio, Box 444, Marion, Mass.

►Everett A. Gile, of Tilton, New Hampshire, has been an advertiser in YANKEE since before World War II. As a matter of fact, he advertises only in YANKEE, and his business is booming. His product? Well, Mr. Gile cures pork products the old fashioned way; by soaking them in a sugar brine and then smoking them over a live wood fire. Sure, it takes a lot longer, but Mr. Gile feels the end result is worth it. So, evidently, do his satisfied customers, who send in orders from every state in the union. Since he ships out of New Hampshire, his products are under Federal inspection. None of the hams, smoked shoulders, daisies or bacon are pre-cooked—they must all be cooked at home. If your mouth is watering by now, send off for the leaflet and price list which Mr. Gile will send to you free. You'll be glad you did!

►Mrs. Rose C. Miller of Worcester, Mass. has come up with a noteworthy invention: a device for locking open windows. This gadget makes it possible to leave your windows open and your worries behind you, as no burglar





Mrs. Miller shows her Open Window Lock.

can break in and no child can fall out. The Pilgrim Open Window Lock fits any standard size wooden frame window and is simple to install. The window can be locked at the top, the bottom or both, and the width of the locked opening can be adjusted. They come in packages of two for \$1.00, so order several from Pilgrim Products, 10 Clarence Street, Worcester 5, Mass.

SILVERPLATED CUFFLINKS

by Christina

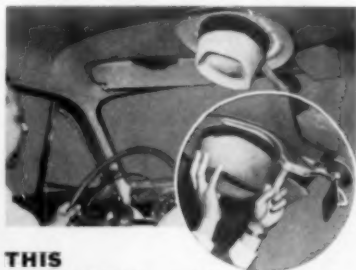


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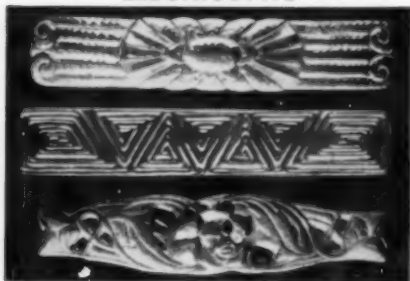
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by JEAN BURDEN

Harvard, Rembrandt and California

THE CHIEF CURATOR OF ART for the Los Angeles County Museum ought to be gray, venerable and stuffy. Instead he is bouncy, crew-cut and 39. His name is Richard Fargo Brown, and he hails from Long Island with a PhD from Harvard.

The story of his life is the perfect if unconscious preparation for his present job. He managed to have a father who was both an artist and an exporter. This meant that Rick's three-year-old ambition to be the Michelangelo of the 20th Century was pampered at every turn with paints, brushes and sympathy. It also meant much travel—Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and an early proficiency with languages. His first school, he recalls, was French, in the heart of Mexico City.

His B. A. was earned at Bucknell University in Pennsylvania. This was followed by a turn at N. Y. U., and finally Harvard. The Navy interrupted his academic pursuits in 1942 with a four-year interlude in the Seabees and O.N.I. The latter gave him an opportunity to add Japanese to his repertoire, though the war ended before he ever got to Japan. Today he can order a meal in Japanese in a sukyaki restaurant to the gratifying amazement of his guests, but he doesn't think this would get him far in Tokyo.

A travelling fellowship from Harvard waited for him as soon as he doffed his uniform, and he spent 1948 in the Louvre, the Uffizi, the National Gallery in London, and hundreds



of libraries in between. He worked on his thesis as he travelled, a weighty opus entitled "Color, Science and Painting in the 19th Century." He finished it four years later—325 pages.

In the meantime, Europe behind him, he went to work at the Frick Museum in New York as General Curator. He spent five happy years there, learning his trade. In 1954 he was offered a teaching position at Harvard and went back to lecture at the Fogg Museum on "Late 19th Century French Painting."

In the spring of 1954 he was approached for the opening in Los Angeles as Assistant Chief Curator of the County Museum. He confesses that he took it partly because it was near the ocean. Like all easterners this was an important consideration, and explains why places like Cleveland and St. Louis with equally attractive offers never got to first base.

Things moved fast in California. Rick had only begun to get acquainted with the tremendous scope of the place when the Chief Curator, Marvin Ross, resigned. Before you could say Pablo Picasso, Rick was pushed up into his position.

And what a position it is. The Los Angeles County Museum, opened in 1910, is a three-way institution—Science, History and Art—under a single roof. It is one of the few such programs in the country. Rick Brown feels it offers great potential to all three aspects. As he says, back in the Renaissance and through-

out the Age of Enlightenment it was the most logical thing in the world for a man to collect his animals, his books and his scientific instruments right along with his art. "There is definitely a relationship, a unity. The more we discover scientifically and historically in the 20th Century the more we are impressed with the unity. The potential of realizing it here at the Los Angeles County Museum is tremendous."

Rick's job is also three-way. Part scholar, part administrator, part socializer—these are the requirements. "And I had better be good at all three to be a success!" he says with a grin, but with the easy confidence of one who knows it won't be too hard. "What do I *do*? I acquire, exhibit and care for the fine arts of this museum. That word 'acquire' means I beg, borrow, or filch it! Between September and December of 1955 we received \$300,000 worth of gifts." Looking around his spacious office, across the art books piled on the floor and the armored figure on the table, one sees canvases leaning against every wall and sturdy chair, waiting for their proper niche.

The exhibiting phase naturally occupies a large part of his time. The Renoir exhibit last year was a sell-out, with the Goya exhibit a close second. Rick was also responsible for bringing to Los Angeles the first comprehensive show of Italian print-makers in the United States. His most exciting plan for 1956 is the proposed "Art of the T'ang Dynasty" show.

Eleven-year old Michael, also an artist, helps hang exhibits on Saturdays, and has almost as much interest and pride in them as his father. *He* is now going to be the Michelangelo of the 20th Century! Wife Polly, recovering from polio, was an art major in college, and shares the family enthusiasm. They live—of all places—on Harvard Street in Santa Monica. It is within a few minutes of the ocean where Rick loves to swim. Much of his spare time still goes into painting—"a combination of realism and expressionism," to quote the artist himself.

There are few if any dull moments in Rick Brown's life. One day last week he spent twelve hours at a TV studio giving technical assistance to a story on the theft of the Mona Lisa. This afternoon there is a cocktail party where he must examine a little-known Renoir. Tomorrow is a lunch date with the head of Artists Equity.

So it goes. There is a lot more to being Chief Curator of Art than knowing the difference between Manet and Monet. Ebullient and dynamic Rick Brown looks as though he likes his job, and that he and it are both in rollicking high gear.

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Profiles in Courage by John F. Kennedy. Harper & Bros. New York. 266 pages with index, \$3.50. The author, distinguished at a comparatively young age as war hero and Senator from Massachusetts presents an unbiased, dispassionate, inspiring, most readable account of various "moments to decide" as these were presented to certain political figures of American history. The decisions of these men, especially those to whom the answers meant political oblivion, and great political sacrifice, may be explained as the author points out in what is always with us as it was with them, an "awareness of God." Such a book as this serves to renew this awareness—a mighty fine contribution for any day or age. R.S.

Along the Gloucester Waterfront by Charles W. Fifield, Jr. 69 pages, ill. \$1.95 from the author at 32 Thurston Road, Melrose, Mass. As the title suggests this is a guided tour of past and present points of interest along Gloucester's waterfront. It will certainly double or triple anyone's enjoyment of this particularly fascinating part of New England life. R.S.

Salt Water, Fresh Water, and Fire Water by Louis W. Eaton. 92 pages. \$2.75 from Blackmore Press, 286 Fifth Ave., New York City. I think I am safe in saying that there isn't a New Englander who deserves the name who won't enjoy every page of this book. I can't explain the philosophy and humor of it—I just haven't lived that long or well. It had me crying in spots, roaring with laughter in others. Try it. R.S.



Spurs by Helen E. McKinzie, 110 pages, \$2.00 Christopher Publishing Co. Boston. Evidently intended for the old horse but even so we doubt if he'll run.

Captain Kidd by Dunbar Hinrichs, 203 pages, indexed, Bookman Press, New York. Years of research have gone into this valuable account of the life, times, and character of our most famous legendary pirate. The Captain turns out to be not a pirate at all—the facts lean decidedly towards the belief he was just a pawn in the great British commercial double standard used for making a pound (or dollar) and letting lives fall where they may (something all of us, including the Soviets, become guilty of every now and then.)

Rug Hooking Made Easy, by Charlotte Kimball Stratton, index, 210 pages, \$5.00, Harper Brothers, New York. This is a delightful book of instruction in hooking; can be easily understood by beginners and immensely enjoyed by experienced hookers. Beautiful designs in black and white, also in color. You will go through this book many times and still find something of interest. Mrs. Stratton describes each step clearly and simply, from design and dyeing formulas to the last hook. P.W.

Eric Sloane's Almanac and Weather Forecaster, 168 Pages, \$3.50, Duell, Sloan & Pearce and Little Brown Company. *Our Vanishing Landscape* by Eric Sloane, 107 pages, \$3.95, Wilfred Funk, Inc., New York City. The cover jacket of the latter pictures the author in a Joseph's shirt of many colors at his farmhouse in Washington, Connecticut, a "devoted student" of 15 years of country living. He sets himself up as an authority on almanacs—and then on early rural America—and we suppose the reading public will set him up as the Billy Graham of the Village Greens. But to anyone who has made even a cursory study of these things, we recommend the \$7.45 be invested where it will grow closer to the ground. Saving grace is, of course, some mighty fine sketches and the laudable attempt at running over fields in which many an expert is satisfied to sit on just one boulder.

The Wizard in the Well, Poems and Pictures by Harry Behn. A delightful small book, beautifully printed, which will tickle the fancy of young and old. 62 Pages, \$2.85, Harcourt Brace Company, New York.



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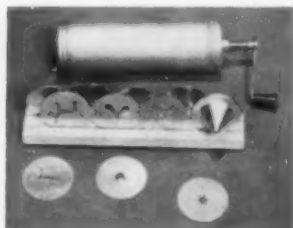
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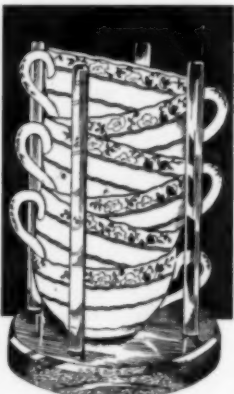
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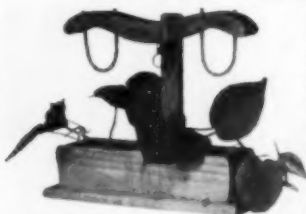
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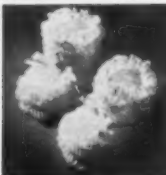
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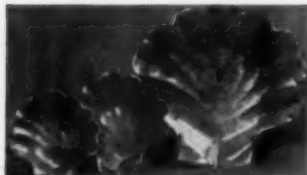


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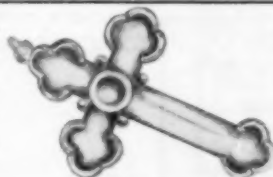


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On a Bicycle Built for Ten

(Continued from page 31)

remember this fact well enough. Riding down from Maine one time—it had just rained—I had to stop often and scrape the mud off me and the bike! Once, when I had a week's vacation, I took a steamer from Boston and went up into Fryeburg, Maine. Then, I cycled to the White Mountains in New Hampshire. Then home. There were three or four of us in the party. We often went on excursions like that."

Sanderson was not as avid a racing fan as Hart.

"I went to one of the races at Bicycle Park," he recalls. "I was disappointed, though, because they started too slow, I thought. Nobody wanted to take the lead—to be pacemaker for the others. It was at the finish that they put on a spurt."

George M. Tinker, now of Nashua, N. H., worked for Metz from 1898 to 1900. After that, he went to work for another concern "building steam engines."

"I saw the 'Oriten' at the factory," Tinker says, "and often saw the men go out with it. Louis ('Lady') Callahan, a well-known professional driver frequently steered the ten-seater. Unless you had ten men good on balance, it was very tricky to steer. It was tested often on the Waltham track. I was working on motor-driven pacing machines at the time. Two men and a motor, moving faster, I would say, than 30 or 40 miles per hour, paced the racers. Most races were paced by these motorized tandems. Oh yes, on racing bikes, Metz was very good. He sold lots of them, lots!"

Another gentleman who recalls the "Oriten" is Ball Bartlett, also of Waltham.

"There was only one 'Oriten,'" Ball says, "only one. And what a machine it was. Once, I recall it was displayed right here in our city—for a Board of Trade meeting, I believe it was. With all the men on it (there was from 1500 to 2000 pounds resting on those two wood-rimmed wheels with their pneumatic tires), it was hard to steer. The ten sprockets were graduated in size. It was a



chain drive affair and the rear chain was built much heavier. The last sprocket, I believe, determined the gear ratio. After that, after the 'Oriten,' Metz came out with a tandem motor pacer."

Walter Metz, son of the founder of the early business, also has his recollections of the era. Now living in California, Walter writes:

"Although I do not remember much about the 'Oriten' in the early days," (he was just a lad then), "I do remember a picture of it hanging in our home about 1900—a bevy of Florodora girls on and around it. I believe this picture was taken on a theatre stage in New York. I later rode and steered this machine in a parade held in Waltham about 1915. I cannot remember the names of any of the men riding with me, but I knew them all personally as they worked for my Dad. Last I saw of the 'Oriten' was at the Ford Museum in Michigan in 1941.

"Everyone liked Dad. He was a great man, and of all his fine qualities, I believe his venturesome spirit was the outstanding. After all, that is what has made America great."

Of all of his ventures, we like to believe that Charles Metz enjoyed most those which brought him the highest success. Since his bicycle manufacture was the most successful enterprise he undertook, we can with fairness conclude that those fruitful days were his happiest. Those who know him and who worked with him say that had Metz gone about his automobile manufacture a bit differently, in one way or another, the world might have had two Henry Fords.

As it was, the best automobile hand he ever had in his employ, Gaston Plantiff, manager of his Waltham Mfg. Company, eventually left Metz to go with Ford. And at Ford, Plantiff had charge of sales and was a very important cog in the works there. He might as easily have remained and become a big cog in the works of the Metz company, too—had not Fate arranged otherwise.

However that may be, the bicycle days were C. H. Metz's best days and, aside from his winning of the Glidden Cup trophy in 1913, he probably will best be remembered for his "Oriten" ten-seater, that fabulous machine of world renown of which it can truthfully be said: even the bloomer girls had a hand in driving it to fame!



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O'Flaherty's Coffin

(Continued from page 27)

man to his feet?"

"Do you mind the time . . . ?"

"Did I miss anything?" Con asked when he came back.

"Aye, we just took all the character ye have away from ye."

"Where's me hat?"

"Where are you going?"

"I'll be stepping next door."

"And what for?"

"For a small brush and a can of black paint's what for."

"Black paint?"

"Out of me way. I've a bit to add to the grand work those boyos have been doing out behind."

When Haynes, the undertaker, arrived at six thirty, with his two assistants that drove the cars, Joyce and Fahy were pulling and hauling a white shirt over Neil Gannon's head, fitting it on him like a glove. It would have been an easier job if it had been unbuttoned, but no one had thought of that. The coffin, with its quiet burden, rested between two chairs. Inside the shirt, Neil was singing *The Queen of Connemara*:

" . . . When the dark flood of the ocean and

and the white foam rush together,
High she rides, in her pride, like a sea-gull
through the gale."

At intervals, Joyce and Fahy would pause long enough from their struggles to step back for the chorus:

"Oh, she's neat, oh, she's sweet; she's a
beauty every line . . ."

The three men in the neat black clothes came in and stood just inside the door looking about them in silent wonder. Their knock had been unanswered, and finally they had turned the knob and let themselves in. They stood unrecognized for several minutes before the undertaker decided to take the initiative and stepped across the room to where the women were gathered about Birdie, who had been trying on hats.

"Tis beautiful, Kate, and it fits lovely. I'll be wearing yours. It'll make a nice change for Dan after ten years of them glass cherries."

"Pardon me, good morning, Mrs. Flaherty," said the undertaker. "We've come."

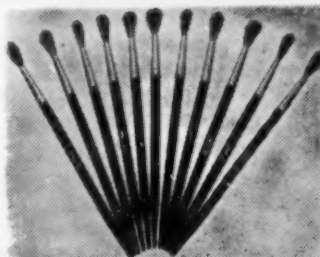
"Ah, yes," Birdie said, "so ye have. We're ready for ye and just in the nick of time."

"Is this . . . Is this the coffin?" he asked tentatively, unwilling to admit the possibility, but seeing no alternative.

"Isn't it lovely!" smiled Birdie through the quick tears, "and it fits him a perfect thirty-six. Neil and them made it last night during the wake."

Admiring eyes turned toward the three men.

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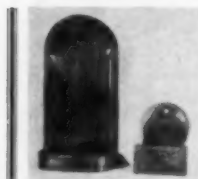
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THE FENCE RAIL

Deerfield, Mass.

Margery Howe, prop.



Neil's head had at last thrust out of the shirt collar and rested there like a rose in a white dish.

"You will have to be a little careful of the name on her bow," he advised. "It's still wet."

"It's on the stern, too," said Con Gavin proudly. "I was just finished before you come."

The undertaker looked at Neil and Con as they spoke, and back to the upper left-hand corner of the coffin. Then he walked around it slowly and looked at the end. It was there also, but lettered larger on the plain oak wood, GALWAY QUEEN.

"It was the name of Dan's boat," Birdie explained to him softly. "The Galway Queen."

The undertaker beckoned to the two men that had come with him, and they came over and stood beside him. "We'll have to watch the wet paint." They nodded.

"What's that?" said one, looking inside.

"It looks like a copper bottom," said the other.

"It *is* a copper bottom," said the undertaker. "I've been in this business twenty-seven years and I've never seen one until today—outside of a boatyard."

"Have you looked underneath yet, Mr. Haynes?" one of them whispered. "How will we ever set it in the hearse?"

"Underneath? No. Don't tell me . . ." He knelt apprehensively. "Twenty-seven years in the business!" he muttered to himself before

turning to the room. "What's that for? That's . . . that's not a . . ."

"Sure, it's a keel," said Con Gavin. "What else would it be?"

"A comfortable thing for any seafaring man to feel under him—afloat or ashore," added Neil Gannon.

"How will we set it in the hearse?" the undertaker asked.

"Why, on a couple boxes I got out back," Neil said matter-of-factly.

"See if you can find those boxes," the undertaker said to one of his men. And to the other, "Get the lid on that and let's get out of here." He turned to Birdie. "We've brought the cars up the hill as far as we can, but we'll need some help to get down there. Are the pallbearers here?"

"We'll be all that's needed," Neil stepped forward. "Joyce and Fahy and me, and you, Con Gavin. Sure, Dan's that light you could blow him off the palm of your hand. Are you ready boys? One . . . two . . . three . . ."

By the time the people in the room had followed the men out the door, they were a quarter of the way down the hill.

"Look!" said the undertaker to his helpers, "don't stand there with your mouths open. Give me those boxes and get down there and help them."

"Aw, rest aisy," Kate Gannon advised him. "Isn't it yourself that'd be knowing it's unlucky to be taking a straight path to a grave?"



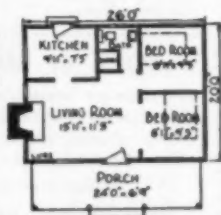
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SAYINGS of the ORACLE

►*Rhode Island: Dear Oracle:* I wonder if you can answer a question about spinning? What was the weight per yard of what the spinner held in her left hand as compared with the weight per yard of the spun yarn in her right hand?

Answer: There are most likely plenty of YANKEE readers who know more about this than we do. We never did any spinning ourselves, this being, in our time, an occupation reserved entirely for the female members of the average family.

But we know this. The wool, as prepared by our tough, pipe-smoking old grandmother, was combed into what was called a "roll." Said roll was no more than a foot in length and had it been square, it might have measured half an inch on a side. From this single roll, the old lady would make several yards of yarn, the actual length depending on what she was going to use the yarn for. Some was spun fine and hard, some, coarse and "soft-laid," as rope-makers would say.

As regards weight, it took a handful of rolls to weigh half a pound. A single one wouldn't weigh over a fraction of an ounce. But the yarn wouldn't weigh but a fraction of what the roll weighed, yard for yard.

What we are talking about is "wheel-spinning," and not the process involving the "whorl." The "pull," in the latter case, being much less, we would suppose that the yarn might be a mite more coarse and consequently, weigh correspondingly more.

►*Mass.: Dear Oracle:* It seems to me you are trying to put one over on me. Snakes with wings! I can't believe it! By and by you'll be

telling me hens had teeth. You must have spent many years reading things like "Believe It Or Not" by Ripley.

Dear Clara: About the snakes; all the ancient artists painted the original serpent with wings and you know that no critter could burrow in mud without hauling his wings loose.

As for hens, well, scientists of the most high-powered variety claim that hens did originally have teeth, being descended from the pterodactyl, or flying lizard of several thousand years B.C.

So write in your queries; we have the answers although, always remember, we won't guarantee to please anybody! Facts are facts and we do not read Ripley! We didn't even read him when he was alive; he made too cussed many mistakes!

►*Maryland: Dear Oracle:* If, as you are introduced, you are an ex-sailor, can you tell me what a ring-tail is? And what is it used for? I have asked half of the U. S. Navy and they don't know. H. G.

Answer: A ring-tail is an extention rigged on the leach of a spanker, or, in case there is such a thing, a spanker-topsl. And we bet a silver dollar agin a stale doughnut that you are no wiser than you were in the first place!

►*Mass.: Dear Oracle:* Why do they say in sea-stories that "they fish the anchor?" D. A.

Answer: In older days they used a stock-anchor in ships. They couldn't haul 'em in by the cable and so, when the upper part of the anchor appeared above the surface, they dangled a big hook on the end of a line, caught the ring and hoisted the anchor to the cat-head. They actually did "fish" to catch that ring.



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good auto trunk, the kind that rode on a carrier on the rear. A153 Mass.

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Have 3 yrs. complete national geographics, good typewriter. Have you buffalo blankets, rifles? A156 N.Y.

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D-Frost-O-Matic automatic refrigerator defroster. Presto C.B. fire extinguishers, Fisherman's handy pack utility bag to swap for red rubber knee boots or what have you? A161 O.

Have flower seeds, 15 different kinds. Will swap for hankies, yard goods or. A162 Pa.

Currier and Ives plate book. Large with 162 plates. Perfect condition. Old gold ring with Romulus and Remus on onyx stone. 4 old silver cuff links with onyx stones. What have you? A163 Mass.

Will swap Gone With De Wind aprons and needle cushions for Carnival glass. A164 N.Y.

Want, postcards of Covered Bridges and Light Houses. What have you? A165 Mass.

Old print of Lincoln in handsome walnut frame. Will swap for what have you? A166 Mass.

Old sheet music for what have you? A167 N.Y.

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